FIRST MINISTERS' CONFERENCES

1906 – 2004

CANADIAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

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1906–2004

PREPARED BY THE

CANADIAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

Our front cover symbolizes intergovernmental conference activity in Canada. Portrayed are fourteen official Coats of Arms beginning with that of Canada at the top then, from left to right, those of the provinces and territories in order of entry into Confederation. They are placed around the CICS logo depicting the governments sitting around a conference table.

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FOREWORD

Over 17 years have passed since the Canadian Intergovernmental Conference Secretariat (CICS) published "Federal-Provincial First Ministers' Conferences 1906-1985". During that time First Ministers have met formally on 19 different occasions. These include the Annual Conferences of First Ministers under the 1985 Regina Accord, and three conferences on the Constitution, one of which dealt with Aboriginal Constitutional Matters. Since the February 1992 Meeting on the Economy, all of the meetings have been closed, usually followed immediately by a press conference. In an effort to denote a somewhat less formal format, since 1990 the title has been changed to "First Ministers' Meeting" (instead of "Conference"). Most of those meetings have focussed on single, broad issues such as Internal Trade (1994), Social Policy Renewal and Social Union Framework Agreement (1997 and 1999 respectively), and Health Care funding in 2000, 2003 and 2004.

Information in the volume is based on official conference records where available, as well as on our own records for those meetings that took place after 1967 which were administered by the Secretariat or its predecessor the Secretariat of the Constitutional Conference. Other useful sources were also consulted. These include the Privy Council Office, the Department of Finance, the Public Archives and the National Library of Canada, and the Library of Parliament.

Although the first Federal-Provincial Conference of First Ministers following Confederation is identified as taking place in 1906, meetings of provincial First Ministers occurred prior to that date. (For information on this and later Premiers' meetings see the CICS publication "Premiers' Conferences" available on our website at www.scics.gc.ca). Readers should note that the present volume is limited to meetings of First Ministers that were federal-provincial (more recently federal-provincial-territorial) and national in scope, and where the arrangements in each case reflected an intention by the First Ministers to meet in a formal intergovernmental format. Not included, therefore, are informal, bilateral, or regional meetings of First Ministers.

As the agency responsible for providing administrative services to meetings of First Ministers the Secretariat hopes that the information provided here will be useful to those interested in this significant aspect of Canadian federalism. The information in this volume will be made available electronically on our website at www.scics.gc.ca.

CICS believes this information to be authoritative but accepts responsibility for any error or omission.

I would like to acknowledge and thank members of the Secretariat staff who brought this publication to fruition, and in particular Jane Dubé, Ghislaine Labonté, Stephen Nemeth, and Nicole Henrie with comments from Andre McArdle and translation by Gilles Boileau. We are all greatly indebted to Andre Millar on whose work the first volume was based.

STUART MACKINNON
SECRETARY
CANADIAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCES

OTTAWA,
JULY 2004

CONFERENCE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND THE VARIOUS PROVINCES

October 8-13, 1906

Railway Committee Room, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda issued. The subject discussed was:

- Financial subsidies to the provinces

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier	4
Ontario	Hon. J.P. Whitney	3
Quebec	Hon. Lomer Gouin (Chair)	3
Nova Scotia	Hon. G.H. Murray	2
New Brunswick	Hon. L.J. Tweedie	2
Manitoba	Hon. R.P. Roblin	2
British Columbia	Hon. Richard McBride	1
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Arthur Peters	2
Saskatchewan	Hon. Walter Scott	2
Alberta	Hon. A.C. Rutherford	2
		23

Conference Secretaries: Charles Lanctôt and Joseph Pope

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- This was the first federal-provincial Conference of First Ministers held following Confederation. It was convened by the Prime Minister of Canada following a request by the provinces. Earlier conferences of provincial Premiers took place in 1887 and 1902.
- Following the Prime Minister's welcoming address the Conference proceeded as an interprovincial meeting, subsequently suspending its proceedings on four different occasions so that delegates could meet the federal representatives in joint sessions.
- The Premier of Quebec was elected Chairman for proceedings of the joint sessions, and acted as Chairman for the other sessions as well.
- Nova Scotia was absent for the opening session, but attended subsequent proceedings.
- The Conference included a representative of the Imperial Parliament.
- The Conference sessions were closed.
- For further reference see *Minutes of the Proceedings in Conference of the Representatives of Canada and of the Provinces*, King's Printer, Ottawa, 1906 and D.T. Braidwood's *A Survey of Dominion-Provincial Conferences 1906-1941*, University of British Columbia, 1941.

A federal-provincial meeting to examine the respective federal and provincial powers regarding the incorporation of companies was held in Ottawa on March 29, 1910. The "Canadian Annual Review" for 1910 indicates that two First Ministers were present – the Prime Minister of Canada and the Premier of New Brunswick.

NOTES *(continued)*

At the 1913 Premiers' Conference held in Ottawa, although not attending, the Prime Minister of Canada, Sir Robert L. Borden, was introduced to the Conference where he welcomed the delegates on behalf of the Government of Canada.

A brief informal conference was held on February 14-15, 1918 in order to discuss the then current food emergency. The subjects discussed during this conference were:

- *Cooperation in a campaign for greater food production*
- *The problems of Agricultural labour, and fuel*
- *The rehabilitation of returned soldiers*
- *The formation of "an after the war" immigration policy*

CONFERENCE BETWEEN THE MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND OF THE VARIOUS PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS

November 19-22, 1918

Senate Chamber (Victoria Memorial Museum), Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda issued. Among the subjects discussed were:

- The problem of soldiers' settlement
- The general problem of land settlement
- The request of the Prairie Provinces for the transfer to them of their natural resources

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Hon. Sir William Thomas White, Acting Prime Minister	9
Ontario	Hon. Sir William Hearst	4
Quebec	Hon. Lomer Gouin	4
Nova Scotia	Hon. G.H. Murray	5
New Brunswick	Hon. W.E. Foster	4
Manitoba	Hon. T.C. Norris	3
British Columbia	Hon. John Oliver	2
Prince Edward Island	Hon. A.E. Arsenault	2
Saskatchewan	Hon. W.M. Martin	4
Alberta	Hon. Charles Stewart	3
		40

Conference Secretaries: Vincent Massey and Charles Lanctôt

Conference communiqué

No information available.

NOTES

- The Minister of Finance, the Hon. Sir William Thomas White, acted in the place of the Prime Minister, Sir Robert L. Borden, who was in London attending the Peace Conferences. The federal Minister of Public Works, the Hon. F.B. Carvell, acted as Conference Chair.
- The Conference sessions were closed.
- On November 20, the provinces met separately in special session to discuss the request from Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta for the return of control over their natural resources.
- For further reference see D.T. Braidwood's *A Survey of Dominion-Provincial Conferences 1906-1941*, University of British Columbia, 1941.

A "National Industrial Conference of Dominion and Provincial Governments with Representative Employers and Labour Men, on the subjects of Industrial Relations and Labour Laws, and for the consideration of the Labour Features of the Treaty of Peace" was held in Ottawa from September 15 to 20, 1919. An examination of the official report of proceedings for this meeting indicates that it was not seen as a Conference of First Ministers (only three attended), but rather as a conference convened to bring together delegates representing the interests of both employers and employees throughout Canada with representatives of the federal and provincial governments.

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

November 3-10, 1927

Railway Committee Room, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

CONSTITUTIONAL

1. Senate Reform
2. Procedure in Amending the British North America Act
3. Participation by Provinces in International Labour Conferences
4. Regulation of Aircraft and Flying Operations
5. Industrial Disputes Investigation Act
6. Incorporation and Operation of Companies, including Trust, Loan, and Insurance Companies
7. Regulation of the Sale of Shares and Securities of Dominion Companies
8. Representation of Nova Scotia in the House of Commons

FINANCIAL

1. Federal Subsidies, including recommendations of Duncan Report thereon
2. Other proposed Federal aids:
   a) for highway construction
   b) for technical education
   c) for agricultural education
   d) for unemployment relief
   e) for steel industry
3. Partition of Federal Lands
4. The Canadian Farm Loan Act, 1927
5. Taxation:
   a) Delimitation of Fields of Taxation
   b) Taxation of the Canadian National Railways
   c) Comparative Taxation
   d) Income Tax, Method of Collection
   e) Priority in Matter of Collecting of Debts
6. Reduction of Customs and Excise Duties
7. Consideration of Interests in which the Dominion and Provincial Governments exercise jurisdiction:
   a) Agriculture
   b) Policing
   c) Health
   d) Construction, Maintenance and Upkeep of Railways
   e) Developing Markets for Canadian Products
   f) Establishment of National Research Laboratories and Co-operation in Research

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC

1. Immigration, Federal and Provincial Co-ordination
2. Fuel Problems
3. Old Age Pensions, Social Insurance
4. Water-Power Development
5. Fisheries
6. Child Nutrition and Transmission of Infection
7. Oriental Problem
8. Unemployment Insurance for Handicapped Veterans
9. Distribution of Fines

Agenda *(continued)*

10. Liquor Importation – Canada Temperance Act
11. Whipping Penalty for Narcotic Offences
12. Canadian Nationality

    1. Taxation of Soldier Settlement Lands
    2. Amendments to Canada Temperance Act to prohibit private importation of liquor

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. W.L. Mackenzie King (Chair)	18
Ontario	Hon. G.H. Ferguson	8
Quebec	Hon. Louis A. Taschereau	2
Nova Scotia	Hon. E.N. Rhodes	4
New Brunswick	Hon. J.B.M. Baxter	7
Manitoba	Hon. John Bracken	5
British Columbia	Hon. J.D. MacLean	3
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Albert C. Saunders	3
Saskatchewan	Hon. J.G. Gardiner	5
Alberta	Hon. John E. Brownlee	5
		60

Conference Secretary: L.C. Moyer

Photo: Canadian Government Motion Picture Bureau/National Archives of Canada/PA-125133

Premier of Ontario, Hon. Howard Ferguson, Rt. Hon. Mackenzie King and Premier of Quebec, Hon. L.A. Taschereau.

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were closed.
- An official précis of the discussions was published each day after approval by the Conference through the Prime Minister, Mr. King and the Premier of Nova Scotia, Mr. Rhodes.
- The report of the discussions on opening day state that "Certain outside parties had asked to be heard, but it had been decided to follow the example of the Imperial Conference in England and outside deputations would not be given any hearing".
- For further reference see *Précis of Discussions, Dominion-Provincial Conference, November 3 to 10, 1927*, King's Printer, Ottawa, 1928.

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

April 7-8, 1931

Railway Committee Room, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda issued. The subject discussed was:

- The opportunity for provinces to express their views with regard to the Statute of Westminster and the proposed Section number 7

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. R.B. Bennett (Chair)	4
Ontario	Hon. George S. Henry	3
Quebec	Hon. Louis A. Taschereau	4
Nova Scotia	Hon. W.L. Hall, Attorney General	1
New Brunswick	Hon. J.B.M. Baxter	3
Manitoba	Hon. Robert A. Hoey, Minister of Education	1
British Columbia	Hon. Simon F. Tolmie	2
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Walter M. Lea	1
Saskatchewan	Hon. Murdock MacPherson, Attorney General	2
Alberta	Hon. John E. Brownlee	2
		23

Conference Secretary: Lester B. Pearson

Conference communiqué

No information available.

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were closed.
- On April 7 the new Governor General and his wife, the Earl and Countess Bessborough, were welcomed by the Prime Minister of Canada and Premiers.
- For further reference see Paul Gérin-Lajoie's *Constitutional Amendment in Canada*, University of Toronto Press, 1950 (page 102).

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

April 8-9, 1932

Office of Minister of Finance, East Block, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda issued. The subject discussed was:

- Unemployment relief measures

First Ministers Attending	Delegates*
Federal	Rt. Hon. R.B. Bennett (Chair)
Ontario	Hon. Col. W.H. Price, Attorney General
Quebec	Hon. Louis A. Taschereau
Nova Scotia	Hon. Gordon S. Harrington
New Brunswick	Hon. C.D. Richards
Manitoba	Hon. W.R. Clubb, Minister of Public Works
British Columbia	Hon. Rolph Bruhn, Minister of Public Works
Prince Edward Island	Hon. J.D. Stewart
Saskatchewan	Hon. W.A. Buckle, Minister of Agriculture
Alberta	Hon. John E. Brownlee

* No list of delegates or confirmation of attendance is available.

Conference communiqué

No information available.

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were closed.
- The federal Minister of Labour, the Hon. W.A. Gordon, subsequently referred to the Conference during a House of Commons debate on April 28, 1932 explaining that it had been convened to examine the financial difficulties experienced by some municipalities through their participation in the program of public works designed to alleviate unemployment. The provincial Premiers, Mr. Gordon said, had been asked "to come to Ottawa to exchange views ... as to what methods should be employed... casting the least possible burden upon the municipalities, the provinces and the Dominion".
- For further reference see reports in the *Globe* and *Ottawa Evening Citizen*.

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

January 17-19, 1933

Railway Committee Room, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Present unemployment and relief conditions
2. The relative legislative jurisdiction of the Dominion and the Provinces respecting Old Age Pensions, Unemployment and Social Insurance
3. Duplication of Dominion and Provincial Taxation Remedies
4. Company Law
5. Jurisdiction over insurance companies
6. Avoidance of overlapping where both Dominion and Provincial authorities are exercising jurisdiction, i.e. Agriculture and Health
7. The regulation of truck and motor bus services competing with interprovincial and national rail transportation facilities
8. Uniform statistical information

First Ministers Attending	Delegates*
Federal	Rt. Hon. R.B. Bennett (Chair)
Ontario	Hon. George S. Henry
Quebec	Hon. Louis A. Taschereau
Nova Scotia	Hon. Percy Black, Minister of Highways
New Brunswick	Hon. C.D. Richards
Manitoba	Hon. John Bracken
British Columbia	Hon. J.W. Jones, Minister of Finance and Industries
Prince Edward Island	Hon. James D. Stewart
Saskatchewan	Hon. J.T.M. Anderson
Alberta	Hon. John E. Brownlee

* No list of delegates or confirmation of attendance is available.

Conference communiqué

No information available.

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were closed.
- Two committees — on unemployment relief and on the Constitution — were established. They met during the afternoon of January 18 and reported to the Conference the following day.
- A Western Premiers' caucus meeting was held on January 16.
- For further reference see reports in the *Globe* and *Ottawa Evening Citizen*.

D.T. Braidwood's A Survey of Dominion-Provincial Conferences 1906-1941, University of British Columbia, 1941, states that "In December of 1933 a minor informal conference convened to discuss the matter of highways and common carriers, a new and developing feature of the Canadian transportation organization."

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

January 18-19, 1934

Railway Committee Room, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

A) Items suggested by federal government:

1. Employment and Relief Measures
2. Financial Position of the Provinces
3. Enactment of a Uniform Companies' Act

B) Additional items suggested by Provincial Governments

From British Columbia

4. Taxes and Customs on Liquor
5. Absorption of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway Company by the Canadian National System
6. The Appointment of a Royal Commission to hear the Claim of British Columbia for equality of treatment with other provinces

From Alberta

7. Marketing Board

From Saskatchewan

8. Assisted Land Settlement

From Alberta and Saskatchewan

9. Agricultural Short Term Credits

From Quebec

10. Authorization of Lotteries for charitable purposes

First Ministers Attending	Delegates*
Federal	Rt. Hon. R.B. Bennett (Chair)
Ontario	Hon. George S. Henry
Quebec	Hon. Louis A. Taschereau
Nova Scotia	Hon. Angus L. Macdonald
New Brunswick	Hon. L.P.D. Tilley
Manitoba	Hon. John Bracken
British Columbia	Hon. T.D. Pattullo
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Dr. J.P. MacMillan
Saskatchewan	Hon. J.T.M. Anderson
Alberta	Hon. John E. Brownlee

* No list of delegates or confirmation of attendance is available.

Conference communiqué

No information available.

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were closed.
- According to the *Report of the Dominion-Provincial Conference, 1934*, King's Printer, Ottawa, 1934, recommendations on an employment and relief measure for 1934 were discussed as well as a draft Companies Act, agricultural short term credits and authorization of lotteries for charitable purposes.
- For further reference see D.T. Braidwood's *A Survey of Dominion-Provincial Conferences 1906-1941*, University of British Columbia, 1941, and reports in the *Globe* and *Ottawa Evening Citizen*.

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

December 9-13, 1935

Railway Committee Room, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Questions relating to the procedure that should be followed in amending the British North America Act
2. Questions relating to financial relations between the Dominion and provinces, and to taxation
3. Questions relating to unemployment and relief
4. Question relating to responsibility for, and co-ordination of social services
5. Questions relating to mining development and taxation
6. Questions relating to agriculture and marketing
7. Questions relating to tourist traffic development

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. W.L. Mackenzie King (Chair)	15*
Ontario	Hon. Mitchell F. Hepburn	16
Quebec	Hon. Louis A. Taschereau	12
Nova Scotia	Hon. Angus L. Macdonald	6
New Brunswick	Hon. A. Allison Dysart	14
Manitoba	Hon. John Bracken	7
British Columbia	Hon. T.D. Pattullo	9
Prince Edward Island	Hon. W.M. Lea	3
Saskatchewan	Hon. W.J. Patterson	4
Alberta	Hon. William M. Aberhart	8
		94

Conference Secretary: John E. Read

* Not including advisors from the Public Service

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The Prime Minister referred to the arrangements for the discussion of the agenda as being based "upon those that have been found to be so successful in Imperial Conferences and other intergovernmental meetings." He also referred to the meeting as the eighth Dominion-Provincial Conference held since Confederation.
- The Conference met in a plenary session on the morning of December 9 to adopt the agenda and form six sub-conferences to deal with the following matters: Tourist Traffic; Mining Development and Taxation; Agriculture and Marketing; Constitutional Questions; Unemployment and Relief; and Financial Questions. The Conference reconvened in plenary session on the afternoon of December 13. The intervening period was devoted to meetings of the sub-conferences, whose reports were presented at the closing plenary session. Each sub-conference was chaired by a federal minister.
- The opening session of the Conference was open, but meetings of the sub-conferences were closed.

NOTES *(continued)*

- In his closing remarks, the Prime Minister said that he appreciated "the attitude of the members in endorsing...the idea of keeping the conference essentially a conference...A mistake that has too frequently existed in the past...has been the belief that unless matters were definitely and finally settled at the time of the conference, the conference itself had not been a success." Earlier in the closing session, Mr. King had stated that it was "important to bear in mind the true nature of present proceedings. A Dominion-Provincial conference is neither a cabinet nor a parliament. It is an institution which enables representatives of the Government of the Dominion of Canada and the governments of the provinces of Canada to confer together, exchange information and opinions, and formulate proposals, in respect to Dominion-Provincial co-operation, which can be presented to the governments concerned and to the Parliament of Canada and legislatures of the provinces."
- For further reference see *Dominion-Provincial Conference 1935, Record of Proceedings*, King's Printer, Ottawa, 1936.

Photo: Unknown/National Archives of Canada/C-049587

Representatives to the Dominion-Provincial Conference

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

January 14-15, 1941

House of Commons Chamber, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda issued. The subject discussed was:

- Consideration of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial Relations (Rowell-Sirois Commission) – federal-provincial fiscal relations.

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. W.L. Mackenzie King (Chair)	18*
Ontario	Hon. Mitchell F. Hepburn	14
Quebec	Hon. Adélard Godbout	19
Nova Scotia	Hon. A.S. MacMillan	12
New Brunswick	Hon. J.B. McNair	12
Manitoba	Hon. John Bracken	11
British Columbia	Hon. T.D. Pattullo	14
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Thane A. Campbell	6
Saskatchewan	Hon. W.J. Patterson	12
Alberta	Hon. William M. Aberhart	9
		127

Conference Secretary: Alex Skelton French Secretary: Paul Fontaine

* Not including advisors from the Public Service.

Photo: NFB/National Archives of Canada/C-007491

Rt. Hon. Mackenzie King and the Provincial Premiers at the Dominion-Provincial Conference

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The Conference opened with general statements by the federal and provincial governments. It then adjourned so that an agenda committee could meet to discuss the agenda to be followed subsequently, and the question of meetings of committees to consider various aspects of the Royal Commission's report.
- The Conference reconvened in the afternoon of January 15 to receive the agenda committee's report. As three Premiers stated that they would refuse to sit on committees to discuss matters predicated upon the Rowell-Sirois report, no committee was recommended for appointment. The four working committees — on finance, labour and unemployment, special problems and constitutional matters — which had been proposed by the federal government prior to the Conference therefore did not meet.
- Following the receipt of the agenda committee's report, the federal minister of Finance made a statement on the financial position of Canada and the measures adversely affecting provincial revenues the federal government would have to take if the Royal Commission report was not adopted.
- After further discussion and debate and the indication that three provinces would be absent if the Conference reconvened the following day, the Chairman concluded that there should be no attempt to proceed further, and the meeting was closed with the singing of the national anthem.
- The Conference sessions were closed during the morning of January 15 but open on January 14 and in the afternoon of January 15.
- For further reference see *Report of Proceedings of the Dominion-Provincial Conference*, King's Printer, Ottawa, 1941.

Photo: ONF/National Archives of Canada/C-026112

Rt. Hon. Mackenzie King addressing the opening session of the Dominion-Provincial Conference, House of Commons

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE ON RECONSTRUCTION

August 6-10, 1945

House of Commons Chamber, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

While there was no formal agenda, federal and provincial proposals related to postwar reconstruction and federal-provincial financial arrangements. These were subsequently examined under the following subjects: financial arrangements, public investment, social security, agriculture, labour and housing.

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. W.L. Mackenzie King (Chair)	75
Ontario	Hon. George Drew	35
Quebec	Hon. Maurice L. Duplessis	8
Nova Scotia	Hon. A.S. MacMillan	13
New Brunswick	Hon. J.B. McNair	23
Manitoba	Hon. Stuart S. Garson	11
British Columbia	Hon John Hart	12
Prince Edward Island	Hon. J. Walter Jones	7
Saskatchewan	Hon. T.C. Douglas	10
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning	9
		203

Conference Secretary: Alex Skelton

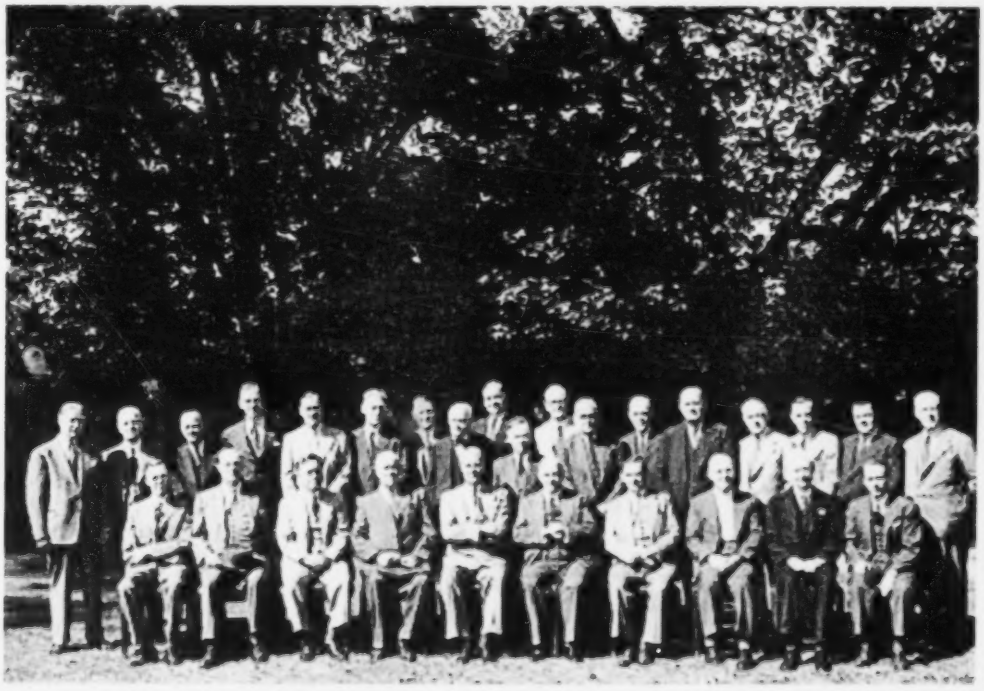

Photo: Unknown/Public Archives of Canada/C-026925

Representatives to the Dominion-Provincial Conference on Reconstruction

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The Dominion-Provincial Conference on Reconstruction held two plenary sessions, August 6-10, 1945 and April 29 – May 3, 1946 (each is dealt with as a separate Conference in this volume). In the intervening period the Conference's Coordinating Committee met on three occasions as follows: November 26-30, 1945; January 28 – February 1, 1946 and April 25-26, 1946.
- In his opening remarks the Prime Minister of Canada referred to the purpose of the Conference as being "an effort to ensure the maximum of cooperation between the Federal government and the governments of the provinces in order that the Canadian people, working together, may achieve the constructive goals of peace", adding that the meeting "may well be the most important Canadian Conference since Confederation".
- A comprehensive set of proposals for a federal-provincial agreement was submitted to the Conference by the federal government at the opening of proceedings. Some provinces submitted proposals as well, with others making informal statements. A Coordinating Committee was established to study the proposals and to report to the next plenary session of the Conference. The Coordinating Committee was comprised of the Prime Minister of Canada, the three federal ministers of Justice, Finance and Reconstruction and the nine Premiers.
- The Steering Committee of the Conference, whose functions were to supervise and co-ordinate the work of all the continuing committees to be established by the Conference and to recommend the establishment of additional committees as may be thought desirable, met privately on August 8. Full sittings of the Conference at other times were open.
- For further reference see *Dominion-Provincial Conference (1945), Dominion and Provincial Submissions and Plenary Conference Discussions*, King's Printer, Ottawa, 1946.

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE ON RECONSTRUCTION

April 29 – May 3, 1946

Senate Chamber, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda was issued. Among the subjects discussed were:

- Financial arrangements
- Public investment
- Health
- Old age pensions
- Unemployment assistance
- Conclusion of new agreements

First Ministers Attending	Delegates*
Federal	Rt. Hon. W.L. Mackenzie King (Chair)
Ontario	Hon. George A. Drew
Quebec	Hon. Maurice L. Duplessis
Nova Scotia	Hon. Angus L. Macdonald
New Brunswick	Hon. J.B. McNair
Manitoba	Hon. Stuart S. Garson
British Columbia	Hon. John Hart
Prince Edward Island	Hon. J. Walter Jones
Saskatchewan	Hon. T.C. Douglas
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning

Conference Secretary: Alex Skelton

* No list of delegates or confirmation of attendance is available.

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- This Conference was the second plenary session of the Dominion-Provincial Conference on Reconstruction. The first plenary session was held in August 1945, and was subsequently followed by meetings of the Conference's Coordinating Committee. The Committee examined the proposals submitted at the August 1945 session, reporting to the reconvened Conference on April 29, 1946.
- The Conference sessions were open.
- For further reference see *Dominion-Provincial Conference (1945), Dominion and Provincial Submissions and Plenary Conference Discussions*, King's Printer, Ottawa, 1946.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE OF FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS

January 10-12, 1950

House of Commons Chamber, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda issued. The subject discussed was:

- The negotiation of a procedure by which the Canadian Constitution could be amended in Canada

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Louis S. St. Laurent (Chair)	15
Ontario	Hon. Leslie M. Frost	9
Quebec	Hon. Maurice L. Duplessis	10
Nova Scotia	Hon. Angus L. Macdonald	5
New Brunswick	Hon. J.B. McNair	9
Manitoba	Hon. Douglas L. Campbell	5
British Columbia	Hon. Byron I. Johnson	7
Prince Edward Island	Hon. J. Walter Jones	5
Saskatchewan	Hon. T.C. Douglas	7
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning	4
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	4
		80

Conference Secretariat: R. Gordon Robertson, Paul Pelletier and Muriel Ann Mosley

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- This was the first conference of federal and provincial First Ministers called to examine the repatriation and amendment of the Canadian constitution exclusively.
- It was also the first Conference attended by Newfoundland which had joined Confederation in 1949.
- Prior to its adjournment, the Conference established the Standing Committee of the Constitutional Conference comprised of representatives of the federal and provincial governments and chaired by the federal Attorney General. The purpose of the Standing Committee was to harmonize the separate views of governments and its members were expected to report to their respective legislatures concerning an amendment procedure.
- The Conference sessions were open.
- For further reference see *Proceedings of the Constitutional Conference of Federal and Provincial Governments*, King's Printer, Ottawa, 1950.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE OF FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS

September 25-28, 1950

Legislative Assembly, Parliament Buildings, Québec City, Quebec

Agenda

No agenda issued. The subject discussed was:

- The negotiation of a procedure by which the Canadian Constitution could be amended in Canada

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Louis S. St. Laurent (Chair)	10
Ontario	Hon. Leslie M. Frost	9
Quebec	Hon. Maurice L. Duplessis	11
Nova Scotia	Hon. Angus L. Macdonald	6
New Brunswick	Hon. J.B. McNair	4
Manitoba	Hon. Douglas L. Campbell	6
British Columbia	Hon. Byron I. Johnson	7
Prince Edward Island	Hon. J. Walter Jones	3
Saskatchewan	Hon. T.C. Douglas	5
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning	4
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	4
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Conference Secretariat: R. Gordon Robertson, Paul Pelletier and Muriel Ann Mosley

Photo: G. Lunney/NFB/Public Archives of Canada/PA-116784

Delegates to the Federal-Provincial Constitutional Conference with the Governor General

Conference communiqué

- Press Statement concerning the discussion which had taken place both in Ottawa (previous January Constitutional Conference) and Québec City on the constitutional position and the procedure by which amendment of the present constitution could be effected in Canada

NOTES

- The Chairman referred to the meeting as the first Federal-Provincial Conference held outside Ottawa.
- The conclusions of the Standing Committee established at the earlier January Conference were examined and discussion continued on the procedure for amending the constitution in Canada.
- The Conference sessions were open September 25, 27 and 28, but closed on September 26.
- For further reference see *Proceedings of the Constitutional Conference of Federal and Provincial Governments (Second Session)*, King's Printer, Ottawa, 1950.

Photo: G. Lunney,NFB/Public Archives of Canada/PA-116783

Federal-Provincial Constitutional Conference in session, Legislative Assembly Room, Hôtel du gouvernement

CONFERENCE OF FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS

December 4-7, 1950

House of Commons Chamber, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda issued. Among the subjects discussed were:

- The offer of the Federal Government for new tax agreements
- The offer of the Federal Government respecting old age security
- A Provincial proposal for an amendment to the Constitution to permit the provincial legislatures to levy an indirect sales tax at the retail level

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Louis S. St. Laurent (Chair)	10*
Ontario	Hon. Leslie M. Frost	19
Quebec	Hon. Maurice L. Duplessis	8
Nova Scotia	Hon. Angus L. Macdonald	4
New Brunswick	Hon. J.B. McNair	14
Manitoba	Hon. Douglas L. Campbell	12
British Columbia	Hon. Herbert Anscomb, Minister of Finance	11
Prince Edward Island	Hon. J. Walter Jones	5
Saskatchewan	Hon. T.C. Douglas	9
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning	8
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	9
		109

Conference Secretaries: R. Gordon Robertson and Paul Pelletier

* Not including advisors from the Public Service.

Conference communiqué

- Statement by the Chairman to the press at the conclusion of the Conference
  - The offer of the Federal Government for new tax agreements
  - The offer of the Federal Government respecting old age security
  - A Provincial proposal for an amendment to the Constitution to permit the provincial legislatures to levy an indirect sales tax at the retail level

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were open on December 4 and during the morning of December 5. Subsequent sessions were closed.
- The Conference created a sub-committee on Old Age Security which met on December 6, and reported on December 7.
- For further reference see *Proceedings of the Conference of Federal and Provincial Governments*. King's Printer, Ottawa, 1951.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE 1955, PRELIMINARY MEETING

April 26-27, 1955

Railway Committee Room, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda issued. Among the subjects discussed were:

- Federal involvement in provision of relief for unemployed persons not in receipt of unemployment insurance
- Establishment of a committee of federal and provincial representatives to collate the essential facts, examine technical problems dealing with the above, and to report to a federal-provincial conference of ministers as soon as possible
- Establishment of a committee of provincial representatives to meet under the chairmanship of the federal Deputy Minister of Finance to prepare statistical and technical material for the October Federal-Provincial Conference
- Creation of an agenda for the October Conference

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Louis S. St. Laurent (Chair)	17
Ontario	Hon. Leslie M. Frost	28
Quebec	Hon. Maurice L. Duplessis	4
Nova Scotia	Hon. Henry D. Hicks	6
New Brunswick	Hon. Hugh John Flemming	8
Manitoba	Hon. Douglas L. Campbell	5
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	7
Prince Edward Island	Hon. A.W. Matheson	2
Saskatchewan	Hon. T.C. Douglas	5
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning	3
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	5
		90

Conference Secretary: Paul Pelletier

Conference communiqué

- Press communiqué
  - Arrangements for the upcoming October meeting
  - Agenda items for the October meeting
  - Question of federal participation in meeting costs of relief to unemployed persons not in receipt of unemployment insurance benefits

NOTES

- The purpose of this Conference was to prepare for the subsequent October 1955 Federal-Provincial Conference.
- The Conference sessions were open on April 26 and closed on April 27.
- For further reference see *Proceedings of the Preliminary Meeting of the Federal-Provincial Conference*, (April 26), Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1955.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

October 3-6, 1955

House of Commons Chamber, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Federal-Provincial fiscal relations
2. Public investment and natural resources development
3. The desirability of establishing a federal-provincial Continuing Committee
4. Health and welfare services
5. The timing and scope of such other special conferences as may be desired

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Louis S. St. Laurent (Chair)	23
Ontario	Hon. Leslie M. Frost	37
Quebec	Hon. Maurice L. Duplessis	15
Nova Scotia	Hon. Henry D. Hicks	13
New Brunswick	Hon. Hugh John Flemming	21
Manitoba	Hon. Douglas L. Campbell	10
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	12
Prince Edward Island	Hon. A.W. Matheson	7
Saskatchewan	Hon. T.C. Douglas	15
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning	10
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	6
		169

Conference Secretary: Paul Pelletier

Conference communiqué

- Press Communiqué on Unemployment Assistance
- General Press Communiqué
  - Federal-provincial fiscal matters
  - Health insurance
  - Unemployment assistance

NOTES

- Conference sessions were open on October 3 and closed from October 4 to 6.
- The Conference established a committee of federal and provincial officials to exchange information and examine technical problems in the field of federal-provincial fiscal and economic relations. It also established a committee of federal and provincial Ministers to study Health Insurance, to which preliminary consideration had already been given by the Conference.
- For further reference see *Proceedings of the Federal-Provincial Conference 1955* (October 3). Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1955.

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

March 9, 1956

Railway Committee Room, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda issued. The subject discussed was

- Federal-provincial fiscal arrangements for April 1, 1957 to March 31, 1962

First Ministers Attending	Delegates*
Federal	Rt. Hon. Louis S. St. Laurent (Chair)
Ontario	Hon. Leslie M. Frost
Quebec	Hon. Maurice L. Duplessis
Nova Scotia	Hon. Henry D. Hicks
New Brunswick	Hon. Hugh John Flemming
Manitoba	Hon. Douglas L. Campbell
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett
Prince Edward Island	Hon. A.W. Matheson
Saskatchewan	Hon. T.C. Douglas
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood

* No list of delegates or confirmation of attendance is available.

Conference communiqué

No information available.

NOTES

- The Conference continued discussions of federal-provincial relations begun at the October 1955 Federal-Provincial Conference, concentrating on federal proposals for new tax arrangements including equalization payments.
- The Conference is reported to have lasted only 5 hours and 15 minutes of sitting time. Sessions were closed.
- For further reference see reports in the *Globe and Mail* and *Ottawa Citizen* and also *House of Commons, Debates*, 1956 (pages 2015-2016).

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

November 25-26, 1957

Railway Committee Room, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda issued. Among the subjects discussed were:

- The financing of hospital insurance
- The sharing of costs of assistance to persons in need
- Special assistance to the governments of the Atlantic provinces
- Fiscal matters

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. John G. Diefenbaker (Chair)	17
Ontario	Hon. Leslie M. Frost	22
Quebec	Hon. Maurice L. Duplessis	9
Nova Scotia	Hon. Robert L. Stanfield	9
New Brunswick	Hon. Hugh John Flemming	15
Manitoba	Hon. Douglas L. Campbell	15
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	17
Prince Edward Island	Hon. A.W. Matheson	9
Saskatchewan	Hon. T.C. Douglas	11
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning	10
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	12
		146

Conference Secretary: Jean Fournier

Conference communiqué

- General communiqué
  - Financing of hospital insurance
  - Sharing of costs of assistance to persons in need
  - Special fiscal assistance to the government of the Atlantic Provinces
  - Fiscal matters
  - Unemployment Assistance Act
  - Tax Sharing Arrangements Act

NOTES

- The November 25 sessions were open; those of November 26 were open and closed.
- For further reference see *Proceedings of the Dominion-Provincial Conference 1957*, Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1958.

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

July 25-27, 1960

Railway Committee Room, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

- Possible tax arrangements after March 31, 1962, under the following headings:
  a) arrangements with respect to personal income tax, corporation income tax and succession duties;
  b) equalization and fiscal need payments and an examination of possible formulas; and
  c) stabilization payments
- Indirect provincial retail sales tax
- Uniform rules for allocation of corporation profits and the income of individuals to provinces
- Taxation of natural resource industries
- Sharing of the federal income tax collected from corporations whose main business is the distribution or generation for distribution to the public of electrical energy, gas or steam
- Application of sales tax to Crown agencies
- Conditional grants and shared cost programmes

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. John G. Diefenbaker (Chair)	20
Ontario	Hon. Leslie M. Frost	30
Quebec	Hon. Jean Lesage	11
Nova Scotia	Hon. Robert L. Stanfield	10
New Brunswick	Hon. Louis J. Robichaud	12
Manitoba	Hon. Duff Roblin	9
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	12
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Walter R. Shaw	5
Saskatchewan	Hon. T.C. Douglas	15
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning	10
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	11
		145

Conference Secretary: Jean Fournier

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The Conference Sessions on July 25 and 26 were open, but closed for the latter part of the afternoon of July 26 and on July 27.
- Municipal observers invited by Manitoba and Alberta were also present.
- The Premier and other officials of Northern Nigeria were introduced to the Conference by the Chairman.
- It was agreed at the end of the Conference that further discussions would be held on Wednesday through Friday, October 26-28.
- For further reference, see *Proceedings of the Dominion-Provincial Conference 1960*, Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1960.

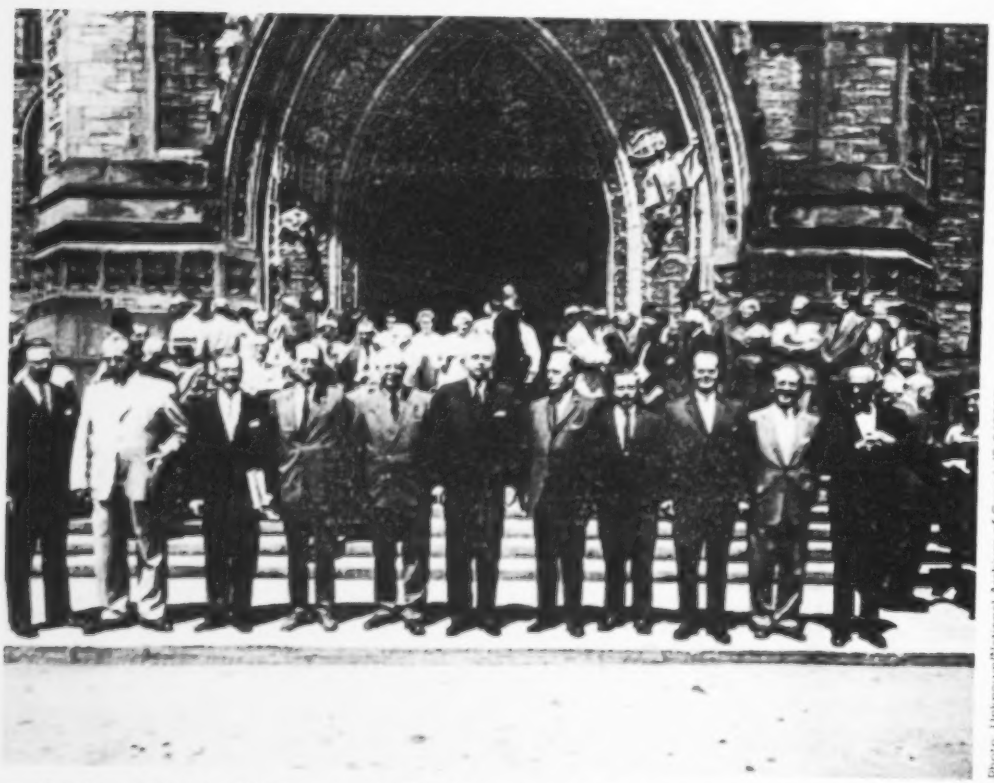

Photo: Unknown/National Archives of Canada/C-049583

Premiers of Canada's 10 Provinces with Prime Minister John G. Diefenbaker in front of main entrance to the Parliament Buildings

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

October 26-28, 1960

Railway Committee Room, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda available. The subject discussed was:

- Federal-provincial fiscal arrangements for 1962-1967

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. John G. Diefenbaker (Chair)	22
Ontario	Hon. Leslie M. Frost	25
Quebec	Hon. Jean Lesage	13
Nova Scotia	Hon. Robert L. Stanfield	8
New Brunswick	Hon. Louis J. Robichaud	12
Manitoba	Hon. Duff Roblin	7
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	12
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Walter R. Shaw	3
Saskatchewan	Hon. T.C. Douglas	12
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning	6
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	15
		135

Conference Secretary: Jean Fournier

Conference communiqué

No information available.

NOTES

- The Conference was a continuation of the discussions of the previous July 1960 Dominion-Provincial Conference concerning federal-provincial fiscal arrangements.
- The Conference sessions were closed.
- The 1960 *Canadian Annual Review* states that the chairman opened the Conference with a proposal to abolish the tax-rental agreements. Most provincial premiers were against that idea.
- Municipal observers invited by Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta were also present.

Talks on the tax-rental matter continued at the next meeting which took place on February 23-24, 1961.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

February 23-24, 1961

Railway Committee Room, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda available. The subject discussed was:

- Federal-provincial fiscal arrangements for 1962-1967, including:
  - tax rental agreements
  - equalization formula

First Ministers Attending	Delegates*
Federal	Rt. Hon. John G. Diefenbaker (Chair)
Ontario	Hon. Leslie M. Frost
Quebec	Hon. Jean Lesage
Nova Scotia	Hon. Robert L. Stanfield
New Brunswick	Hon. Louis J. Robichaud
Manitoba	Hon. Duff Roblin
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Walter R. Shaw
Saskatchewan	Hon. T.C. Douglas
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood

* No list of delegates or confirmation of attendance is available.

Conference communiqué

No information available.

NOTES

- This Conference continued the discussions of the previous July and October 1960 Federal-Provincial Conferences concerning federal-provincial fiscal arrangements.
- The Conference sessions were closed, but the full text of the federal government's proposals was released to the press.
- According to reports in the *Globe and Mail*, the federal and provincial governments agreed on a new tax-sharing arrangement to be put in place for the provinces which promised them one of the smallest increases in revenue in recent years. Most premiers were reported to agree that the new agreement was better than the one suggested at the last Conference. However, because it gave the provinces the smallest increase in revenue in recent years, the federal government still received a lot of criticism.
- The Prime Minister's opening statement can be found in the 1960-1961 *House of Commons, Debates* (pages 2527-2531).
- For further reference see *Canadian Annual Review*, 1961 (pages 22-23) and reports in the *Ottawa Citizen*.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

July 26-27, 1963

West Block, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda available. Among the subjects discussed were:

- Proposed federal municipal loan and development fund
- Canada Pension Plan

First Ministers Attending	Delegates*
Federal	Rt. Hon. Lester B. Pearson (Chair)
Ontario	Hon. John P. Robarts
Quebec	Hon. Jean Lesage
Nova Scotia	Hon. Robert L. Stanfield
New Brunswick	Hon. Louis J. Robichaud
Manitoba	Hon. Duff Roblin
British Columbia	Hon. Wesley D. Black, Provincial Secretary and Minister of Municipal Affairs and Social Welfare
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Walter R. Shaw
Saskatchewan	Hon. Woodrow S. Lloyd
Alberta	Hon. E.W. Hinman, Provincial Treasurer
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood

* No list of delegates or confirmation of attendance is available.

Conference communiqué

No information available.

NOTES

- Loans to municipalities for capital works programs, and the Canada Pension Plan were discussed.
- The Prime Minister of Canada was not present at all sessions, but made opening and closing statements. The Conference was chaired by the Hon. Maurice Lamontagne, President of the Privy Council and Minister responsible for Federal-Provincial Relations.
- An Atlantic Premiers' meeting took place on the evening of July 25.
- The Conference sessions were closed.
- Municipal observers invited by Manitoba were present.
- A federal press release prior to the meeting stated that for the first time at a federal-provincial conference facilities for simultaneous interpretation would be available to the participants.
- For further reference see the *Canadian Annual Review*, 1963 and reports in the *Globe and Mail*.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

November 26-29, 1963

Confederation Room, West Block, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. State of the Canadian Economy, including:
   a) employment measures and unemployment
   b) economic and industrial policies
2. Conditional grants and shared cost programs, including:
   a) hospital insurance costs and operation
   b) categorical assistance programs
3. Fiscal Relations
4. Special topics, including:
   a) national agriculture marketing boards
   b) the administration of Indian and Eskimo affairs
   c) provincial lotteries
   d) Canada Pension Plan
   e) medical services
5. Continuing federal-provincial liaison arrangements
6. Other matters

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Lester B. Pearson (Chair)	42
Ontario	Hon. John P. Robarts	40
Quebec	Hon. Jean Lesage	24
Nova Scotia	Hon. Robert L. Stanfield	11
New Brunswick	Hon. Louis J. Robichaud	19
Manitoba	Hon. Duff Roblin	13
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	9
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Walter R. Shaw	7
Saskatchewan	Hon. Woodrow S. Lloyd	17
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning	8
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	12
		202

Conference Secretary: J.E.G. Hardy

Conference communiqué

- General communiqué
  - Review of fiscal arrangements and shared cost programs
  - Economic prospects
  - Criminal Code in respect of lotteries and gambling
  - Pension plan
  - Welfare programs
  - Support and cooperation for native people

NOTES

- The Conference was originally scheduled to begin on November 25 but was delayed by a day as a result of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy of the United States on November 22. Following consultation with the provinces, the opening was postponed by 24 hours so that the Prime Minister could attend the President's funeral.
- The opening statements were made in an open session. Other conference sessions were closed.
- For further reference see *Federal-Provincial Conference 1963*, Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1964.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

March 31 – April 1, 1964

Legislative Assembly, Parliament Buildings, Québec City, Quebec

Agenda

1. Relations between shared-cost programmes and fiscal arrangements, including the implications of contracting out
2. Canada Pension Plan
3. Reciprocal arrangements regarding taxation of government departments and agencies
4. Other aspects of fiscal relations
5. Federal proposals regarding loans to university students
6. Liaison arrangements, with particular reference to calendar of meetings for 1964
7. Report on Canadian 1967 World Exhibition
8. Other matters

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Lester B. Pearson (Chair)	24
Ontario	Hon. John P. Robarts	21
Quebec	Hon. Jean Lesage	18
Nova Scotia	Hon. Robert L. Stanfield	9
New Brunswick	Hon. Louis J. Robichaud	12
Manitoba	Hon. Duff Roblin	8
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	8
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Walter R. Shaw	7
Saskatchewan	Hon. Allan E. Blakeney, Minister of Public Health	6
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning	6
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	12
		131

Conference Secretary: J.E.G. Hardy

Conference communiqué

- General communiqué
  - Shared-cost programs and conditional grants
  - Other aspects of fiscal relations
  - Canada Pension Plan
  - Hospital insurance program
  - Canadian 1967 World Exhibition
  - Taxation of government departments and agencies
  - Submarine mineral rights
  - Proposals of some provinces for further federal assistance to highway construction
  - Problem of the distribution of "hate literature"

NOTES

- This meeting was seen as a continuation of the prior November 1963 Conference in Ottawa, with the federal Prime Minister accepting the invitation of the Quebec Premier to hold the Conference in Quebec City.
- The Conference sessions were closed.
- The Conference established the Tax Structure Committee, made up of three federal ministers and one minister from each province, to study federal-provincial fiscal relations.
- For further reference see *Federal-Provincial Conference, Quebec, March 31 – April 1, 1964*, Queen's Printer, (Privy Council Office), Ottawa, 1968.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

August 31 – September 2, 1964

Confederation Chamber, Provincial Legislative Building,
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

Agenda

1. Amendment of Constitution in Canada
2. Other matters

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Lester B. Pearson (Chair)	10
Ontario	Hon. John P. Robarts	4
Quebec	Hon. Jean Lesage	5
Nova Scotia	Hon. Robert L. Stanfield	3
New Brunswick	Hon. Louis J. Robichaud	6
Manitoba	Hon. Duff Roblin	2
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	3
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Walter R. Shaw	3
Saskatchewan	Hon. W. Ross Thatcher	2
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning	1
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	5
		44

Conference Secretary: J.E.G. Hardy

Conference communiqué

- Communiqué on the repatriation of the British North-America Act

NOTES

- At the November 1963 Conference, the Premier of Prince Edward Island extended an invitation to the Prime Minister and Premiers to meet with him in Charlottetown the next year to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 1864 Charlottetown Conference of the Fathers of Confederation. In early 1964, Mr. Pearson wrote the ten Premiers to suggest that two Conference sessions be held for the occasion: a public session to commemorate the 1864 Conference, and a closed business session. The commemoration session took place on September 1, with the First Ministers delivering speeches in honour of the Fathers of Confederation; the business session followed on September 2, with the main topic being a constitutional amendment formula.
- For further reference see *Federal-Provincial Conference, Charlottetown, August 31 – September 2, 1964*, Queen's Printer, (Privy Council Office), Ottawa, 1968.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

October 14-15, 1964

Confederation Room, West Block, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Amendment of the Constitution of Canada in Canada – Progress report from the Conference of Attorneys General
2. Terms of reference and organization of the Tax Structure Committee – Recommendations of the Committee
3. Off-shore mineral rights
4. Other matters

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Lester B. Pearson (Chair)	20
Ontario	Hon. John P. Robarts	21
Quebec	Hon. Jean Lesage	10
Nova Scotia	Hon. Robert L. Stanfield	6
New Brunswick	Hon. Louis J. Robichaud	6
Manitoba	Hon. Duff Roblin	7
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	6
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Walter R. Shaw	3
Saskatchewan	Hon. W. Ross Thatcher	2
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning	4
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	5
		90

Conference Secretary: J.E.G. Hardy

Conference communiqués

- Communiqué of the Federal-Provincial Conference on Tax Structure Committee terms of reference
- Communiqué of the Federal-Provincial Conference on Constitutional amendment

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were closed.
- The Conference of Attorneys General and the Tax Structure Committee each met on October 13 to prepare reports for submission to the First Ministers' Conference. The reports of the Attorneys General and the Tax Structure Committee were adopted by the Conference.
- For further reference see *Federal-Provincial Conference, Ottawa, October 14-15, 1964*, Queen's Printer, (Privy Council Office), Ottawa, 1968.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

July 19-22, 1965

Confederation Room, West Block, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Social Security
   a) Canada Assistance Plan
   b) Health Services
   c) Private Pension Plans Legislation
2. Economic Development
   a) Regional Problems
   b) Program for Low-Employment Areas
   c) Program for the Full Utilization of Human Resources and the Elimination of Poverty
   d) Off-Shore Mineral Rights
3. Tax Structure Committee
   a) Report of Chairman on Progress of Studies
   b) Shared Cost Programmes
   c) University Financing
4. Transportation
5. Inland Water Resources
6. Liaison and Secretariat Arrangements
7. Other Matters
   a) National Wildlife Programme
   b) Taxation of Electric Utilities
   c) Bank Act
   d) R.C.M.P. Contracts
   e) Organized Crime and Rehabilitation of Prisoners

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Lester B. Pearson (Chair)	53
Ontario	Hon. John P. Robarts	38
Quebec	Hon. Jean Lesage	33
Nova Scotia	Hon. Robert L. Stanfield	11
New Brunswick	Hon. Louis J. Robichaud	11
Manitoba	Hon. Duff Roblin	17
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	6
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Walter R. Shaw	7
Saskatchewan	Hon. W. Ross Thatcher	7
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning	9
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	16
		208

Conference Secretary: J.E.G. Hardy

Conference communique

- General communique
  - Medical care
  - Health
  - Tax Structure Committee

Conference communiqué *(continued)*

- Canada Assistance Plan
- Economy
  - Regional Development
  - Federal program of industrial development grants in areas of low employment
  - Poverty
- Rights to off-shore mineral resources
- Organized crime and prisoner rehabilitation
- University financing
- Water resources
- Highways and Roads to resources
- National wildlife program

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were closed.
- For further reference see *Federal-Provincial Conference, Ottawa, July 19-22, 1965*, Queen's Printer (Privy Council Office), Ottawa, 1968.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

October 24-28, 1966

Confederation Room, West Block, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. The financing of higher education
2. Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements:
   a) Tax Sharing
   b) Shared-Cost Programmes
   c) Equalization
   d) Intergovernmental Liaison on Economic and Fiscal Matters
3. Other Matters

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Lester B. Pearson (Chair)	32
Ontario	Hon. John P. Robarts	11
Quebec	Hon. Daniel Johnson	18
Nova Scotia	Hon. Robert L. Stanfield	13
New Brunswick	Hon. Louis J. Robichaud	10
Manitoba	Hon. Duff Roblin	17
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	7
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Alexander B. Campbell	9
Saskatchewan	Hon. W. Ross Thatcher	3
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning	7
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	10
		137

Conference Secretary: J. Beetz

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were closed.
- The Conference was divided into three different meetings: the first, lasting to noon October 26, dealt with the financing of post-secondary education and manpower training; the second meeting, lasting to the morning of October 28, involved discussions by the Tax Structure Committee; the third meeting was that of the plenary Conference of the Prime Minister and Premiers which met briefly after the Tax Structure Committee to discuss various matters relating to items considered at the previous two meetings.
- For further reference see *Federal-Provincial Conference, Ottawa, October 24-28, 1966*, Queen's Printer, (Privy Council Office), Ottawa, 1968.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

December 11-12, 1967

West Block, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Opening statements
2. Review of the present housing situation, and future prospects:
   a) privately initiated housing
   b) low rental housing
   c) rural housing
3. Problems of urban development
4. Approaches and priorities in dealing with problems of housing and urban development
5. Arrangements for continuing review of housing and urban development problems
6. Future inter-governmental meetings

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Lester B. Pearson (Chair)	22
Ontario	Hon. John P. Robarts	22
Quebec	Hon. Daniel Johnson	9
Nova Scotia	Hon. G.I. Smith	11
New Brunswick	Hon. Louis J. Robichaud	5
Manitoba	Hon. Walter C. Weir	15
British Columbia	Hon. D.R.J. Campbell, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Social Services	4
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Alexander B. Campbell	5
Saskatchewan	Hon. C.L.B. Estey, Minister of Municipal Affairs	2
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning	4
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	8
		107

Conference Secretary: J. Beetz

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were open.
- Municipal observers associated with the Ontario delegation were also present.
- For further reference see *Notes on Federal-Provincial Conference on Housing and Urban Development*, Privy Council Office, January 1968.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE

February 5-7, 1968

Confederation Room, West Block, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Opening Statements
2. Rights of Canadians
   a) Recommendations of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism
   b) A constitutional Bill of Rights
3. Further constitutional review
4. Questions of regional disparity
5. Other matters

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Lester B. Pearson (Chair)	29
Ontario	Hon. John P. Robarts	18
Quebec	Hon. Daniel Johnson	18
Nova Scotia	Hon. G.I. Smith	14
New Brunswick	Hon. Louis J. Robichaud	10
Manitoba	Hon. Walter C. Weir	13
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	3
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Alexander B. Campbell	2
Saskatchewan	Hon. W. Ross Thatcher	3
Alberta	Hon. E.C. Manning	7
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	9
		126

Conference Secretary: J. Beetz

Conference communiqué

- Consensus on Language Rights
- Proposals adopted by the Conference
  - Official languages
  - Fundamental rights
  - Distribution of powers
  - Reform of institutions linked with federalism, including the Senate and the Supreme Court of Canada
  - Regional disparities
  - Amending procedure and provisional arrangements
  - Mechanism of federal-provincial relations

NOTES

- The Conference was preceded by the Confederation of Tomorrow Conference convened by the Premier of Ontario in November 1967, and at which the ten provincial governments had exchanged views on the problems facing Confederation.
- A Consensus on Language Rights was adopted by the Conference, as well as a decision taken to undertake a process of constitutional review through a continuing Constitutional Conference of First Ministers and a Continuing Committee of Officials to assist the Conference in its work. The Conference also agreed that a Secretariat should be established to serve both the Constitutional Conference and the Continuing Committee of Officials, and that the following questions should be examined by the Conference and Committee: official languages, fundamental rights, distribution of powers, reform of institutions linked with federalism including the Senate and Supreme Court of Canada, regional disparities, the amending procedure and provisional arrangements, and mechanisms of federal-provincial relations.
- The Conference sessions were open, and included a number of Members of Parliament invited to attend as official observers.
- This Conference was the first to be televised. Subsequent references to open Conference sessions mean that they were televised.
- For further reference see *The Constitutional Review 1968-1971, Secretary's Report*, Canadian Intergovernmental Conference Secretariat, Ottawa, 1974.

This Conference marked the beginning of the most comprehensive attempt at constitutional review since Confederation. The Constitutional Conference and the committees of ministers and officials established to support it, were to meet continuously for the next three years until terminated by the failure to reach agreement at the Conference held in Victoria, British Columbia, in June 1971.

Photo: Cameron Duncan/National Archives of Canada/PA-115205

Federal-Provincial Constitutional Conference in session

CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE

February 10-12, 1969

Confederation Room, West Block, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Opening Statements
2. Objectives of the Constitutional Conference:
   a) General
   b) Report of the Continuing Committee
   c) Procedure for Constitutional Review
3. The Objectives of Confederation and Basic Principles of the Constitution
4. Specific Constitutional Questions:
   a) Official Languages
   b) Fundamental Rights
   c) Distribution of Powers (including constitutional aspects of taxation and spending powers)
   d) Reform of Institutions linked with Federalism
   e) Regional Disparities
   f) Amending Procedure and Provisional Arrangements
   g) Mechanisms of Federal-Provincial Relations
5. Other Questions

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	32
Ontario	Hon. John P. Robarts	16
Quebec	Hon. Jean-Jacques Bertrand	18
Nova Scotia	Hon. G.I. Smith	13
New Brunswick	Hon. Louis J. Robichaud	9
Manitoba	Hon. Walter C. Weir	16
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	5
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Alexander B. Campbell	7
Saskatchewan	Hon. D.G. Steuart, Deputy Premier/Minister of Finance	7
Alberta	Hon. Harry E. Strom	10
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	9
		142

Conference Secretary: Edgar Gallant

Conference communiqué

- Conclusions of the Meeting
  - General objectives of the Constitutional Conference
  - Procedure for Constitutional Review
  - Official Languages
  - Fundamental Rights
  - Distribution of Powers
  - Reform of institutions linked with federalism
    - The Senate
    - The Judiciary
    - The National Capital

NOTES

- The Conference re-affirmed its intent to complete a comprehensive review of the constitution, and decided that the review should proceed at an accelerated pace. Four Committees of Ministers to deal with each of the following constitutional subjects were also established: Official Languages, Fundamental Rights, the Senate and the Judiciary. The Conference recognized that the study of the distribution of powers was a matter of priority, in particular the taxing and spending powers.
- This was the first Conference administered by the Secretariat of the Constitutional Conference (SCC) established following a decision of the February 1968 meeting. In addition to the necessary administrative arrangements, the SCC was also charged with keeping a summary record of proceedings. Provinces were invited to second personnel to the SCC and the appointment of its executive head, the Secretary, was effected following consultation with the provinces.
- The Conference sessions were open. Official observers, invited by the federal and provincial governments, also attended. These included two former Prime Ministers of Canada, the Speakers of the Senate and House of Commons, and federal and provincial Opposition Leaders.
- For further reference see *The Constitutional Review 1968-1971, Secretary's Report*, Canadian Intergovernmental Conference Secretariat, Ottawa, 1974.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE

June 11-12, 1969

Centennial Room, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Distribution of Powers in the Constitution
   a) The Taxing Powers
   b) The Spending Powers
2. Constitutional Aspects of Regional Disparities
3. Progress Reports from Committees of Ministers
4. Programme of Work for the Constitutional Review
5. Other Business

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	14
Ontario	Hon. John P. Robarts	7
Quebec	Hon. Jean-Jacques Bertrand	6
Nova Scotia	Hon. G.I. Smith	5
New Brunswick	Hon. Louis J. Robichaud	8
Manitoba	Hon. Walter C. Weir	7
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	6
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Alexander B. Campbell	4
Saskatchewan	Hon. W. Ross Thatcher	3
Alberta	Hon. Harry E. Strom	6
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	4
		70

Conference Secretary: Edgar Gallant

Conference communiqué

- Conclusions of the Meeting
  - General
  - The Taxing Powers
  - The Spending Powers
  - Constitutional Aspects of Regional Disparities
  - Progress Reports from Committees of Ministers
  - Future Program of Work

NOTES

- The meeting was described as a "Working Session" of the Constitutional Conference and its sessions were closed.
- For further reference see *The Constitutional Review 1968-1971, Secretary's Report*, Canadian Intergovernmental Conference Secretariat, Ottawa, 1974.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE

December 8-10, 1969

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Division of Powers
   a) Income Security and Social Services
   b) The Spending Power: Federal Grants to Provincial Governments
   c) Taxation
2. Regional Disparities
3. Reports from Committees of Ministers
4. Future Programme of Work
5. Other Business

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	30
Ontario	Hon. John P. Robarts	18
Quebec	Hon. Jean-Jacques Bertrand	13
Nova Scotia	Hon. G.I. Smith	13
New Brunswick	Hon. Louis J. Robichaud	10
Manitoba	Hon. Edward Schreyer	16
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	8
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Alexander B. Campbell	6
Saskatchewan	Hon. W. Ross Thatcher	3
Alberta	Hon. Harry E. Strom	8
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	10
		135

Conference Secretary: Henry F. Davis

Conference communiqué

- Conclusions of the Meeting
  - Progress and Procedure in the Constitutional Review
  - Income Security and Social Services
    - Income Support
    - Income Insurance
    - Social Services
  - The Spending Power: Federal Grants to Provincial Governments
    - Consensus
    - Compensation in Non-Participating Provinces
  - Taxation
  - Regional Disparities
  - Reports from Committees of Ministers
  - Future Program of Work

The Conclusions of the Meeting also described the Conference discussions and noted that progress had been achieved in the "comprehensive review of the Constitution of Canada".

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were open, and official observers invited by the federal and provincial governments were present.
- Before closing the Conference, the First Ministers met in a private executive session, together with the Secretary of the Conference, to discuss their future program of work and to approve the "Conclusions of the Meeting" which were subsequently issued.
- For further reference see *The Constitutional Review 1968-1971, Secretary's Report*, Canadian Intergovernmental Conference Secretariat, Ottawa, 1974.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

February 16-17, 1970

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. The Economic Situation
2. The Western Agricultural Situation
3. Pollution
4. Report of the Tax Structure Committee

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	43
Ontario	Hon. John P. Robarts	14
Quebec	Hon. Jean-Jacques Bertrand	15
Nova Scotia	Hon. G.I. Smith	11
New Brunswick	Hon. Louis J. Robichaud	7
Manitoba	Hon. Edward Schreyer	8
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	4
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Alexander B. Campbell	3
Saskatchewan	Hon. W. Ross Thatcher	4
Alberta	Hon. Harry E. Strom	7
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	4
		120

Conference Secretary: Henry F. Davis

Conference communiqué

- Statement of Conclusions
  - General
  - The Economic Situation
  - The Western Agricultural Situation
  - Pollution
  - Report of the Tax Structure Committee
    - Occupancy of tax fields
    - Shared-cost programmes

With respect to the economy, the Statement of Conclusions noted that the Governor of the Bank of Canada had given the Conference his assessment of the economic and financial situation and outlook.

NOTES

- This meeting was the result of a decision made by the First Ministers at their previous Constitutional Conference, on December 8-10, 1969, that they should meet to discuss non-constitutional matters.
- The Conference sessions were closed.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE

September 14-15, 1970

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. The Constitutional Review Process
2. Environmental Management
3. The Capital Market and Financial Institutions
4. Progress Report from the Committee of Ministers on Official Languages
5. Reports from the Continuing Committee of Officials:
   a) Taxing Power – Sales Taxes
   b) Taxing Power – Death Duties
   c) Regional Disparities – Constitutional Obligation
   d) Paramiouncy as applied to Public Retirement Insurance
6. Other Business

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	22
Ontario	Hon. John P. Robarts	11
Quebec	Hon. Robert Bourassa	17
Nova Scotia	Hon. G.I. Smith	8
New Brunswick	Hon. Louis J. Robichaud	11
Manitoba	Hon. Edward Schreyer	9
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	6
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Alexander B. Campbell	7
Saskatchewan	Hon. W. Ross Thatcher	3
Alberta	Hon. Harry E. Strom	5
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	10
		109

Conference Secretary: Henry F. Davis

Conference communiqué

- Conclusions of the Meetings
  - The Constitutional Review Process
  - Environmental Management
  - The Capital Market and Financial Institutions
  - Official Languages
  - The Taxing Powers
  - Regional Disparities
  - Paramountcy as applied to Public Retirement Insurance
  - Conclusion

It was stated that the question of the amending procedure should now receive attention, since certain urgent amendments might be required prior to the completion of the full constitutional review.

Attached to the statement of Conclusions was an appendix setting out the progress made on individual subjects thus far considered in the constitutional review.

NOTES

- The meeting was described as the second "Working Session" of the Constitutional Conference and was closed. The first session took place on June 11-12, 1969.
- Conference discussions on the constitutional review process question were based on a detailed working paper prepared by the Conference Secretariat and gave rise to agreements which would significantly affect the future conduct of the review.
- For further reference see *The Constitutional Review 1968-1971, Secretary's Report*, Canadian Intergovernmental Conference Secretariat, Ottawa, 1974.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

September 16, 1970

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. The Tax Reform
2. The Agricultural Situation
3. Quebec's Proposal for an Economic Stabilization Fund
4. Other Business
   a) Unemployment and Transient Movement within Canada and from the United Sates
   b) Designated regions under the Department of Regional Economic Expansion
   c) Forestry

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	26
Ontario	Hon. John P. Robarts	11
Quebec	Hon. Robert Bourassa	17
Nova Scotia	Hon. G.I. Smith	9
New Brunswick	Hon. Louis J. Robichaud	6
Manitoba	Hon. Edward Schreyer	11
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	7
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Alexander B. Campbell	7
Saskatchewan	Hon. W. Ross Thatcher	3
Alberta	Hon. Harry E. Strom	8
Newfoundland	Hon. L.R. Curtis, Minister of Justice	4
		109

Conference Secretary: Henry F. Davis

Conference communiqué

- Statement of Conclusions
  - General
  - Tax Reform
  - Quebec's Proposal for an Economic Stabilization Fund
  - The Agricultural Situation
  - Current Interprovincial Marketing Problems
  - Other Business
    - Unemployment and Transient Movement – Designated Regions
    - Forestry

NOTES

- Although held immediately following the September 14-15 Constitutional Conference, and in the same location, this meeting of First Ministers was considered to be a separate Conference convened for the discussion of non-constitutional questions.
- The Conference sessions were closed.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE

February 8-9, 1971

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Mechanisms of Federal-Provincial Relations
2. Environmental Management – Pollution
3. Social Policy
4. The Amending Formula
5. Canadian Common Market
6. Other Business

Federal-Provincial Consultation on Current Matters

1. Unemployment
2. Transportation to Northern Resources

First Ministers Attending

		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	25
Ontario	Hon. John P. Robarts	13
Quebec	Hon. Robert Bourassa	13
Nova Scotia	Hon. Gerald A. Regan	10
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	7
Manitoba	Hon. Edward Schreyer	12
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	4
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Alexander B. Campbell	5
Saskatchewan	Hon. W. Ross Thatcher	3
Alberta	Hon. Harry E. Strom	10
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	12
		114

Conference Secretary: Henry F. Davis

Conference communiqué

- Conclusions of the Meeting

PART 1*

- General
- Patriation of the Constitution
- The Amending Formula
  - General Procedure
  - Federal and Provincial Constitutions
  - Amendments of Concern to Canada plus One or More but not All Provinces

Conference communiqué *(continued)*

- Fundamental Rights
- Language Rights
- Supreme Court
- Regional Disparities
- Mechanism of Federal-Provincial Relations
- Modernization of the Constitution
- Next Step

PART 2

- Social Policy
- Canadian Interprovincial Marketing
- Environmental Management – Pollution
- Other Business
- Next Meeting

PART 3

- Non-Constitutional Matters
  - Unemployment

*Part 1 referred to the agreement to proceed as quickly as possible to patriate the constitution, with an amending formula and other changes that could be agreed upon quickly. It set out a "feasible approach" to an amending formula, and referred to an agreement to entrench certain political rights and to declare English and French as the official languages of Canada. The Supreme Court, the reduction of regional disparities and yearly consultation about the need for a Federal-Provincial Conference were also mentioned for inclusion in a revised constitution.

NOTES

- The meeting was referred to as the third "Working Session" of the Constitutional Conference and its sessions were closed.
- During the morning of February 8 the First Ministers met in a private executive session to review a "package" of proposed constitutional changes.
- Two non-constitutional items were included on the agenda, but only one (unemployment) was discussed by the Conference.
- For further reference see *The Constitutional Review 1968-1971, Secretary's Report*, Canadian Intergovernmental Conference Secretariat, Ottawa, 1974.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE

June 14-16, 1971

Legislative Chamber, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, British Columbia

Agenda

1. Opening Proceedings
2. Constitutional Discussions
3. Social Policy
4. Other Business
5. Closing Proceedings

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	27
Ontario	Hon. William G. Davis	14
Quebec	Hon. Robert Bourassa	12
Nova Scotia	Hon. Gerald A. Regan	9
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	7
Manitoba	Hon. Edward Schreyer	8
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	22
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Alexander B. Campbell	5
Saskatchewan	Hon. D.V. Heald, Attorney General	4
Alberta	Hon. Harry E. Strom	10
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	11
		129

Conference Secretary: Henry F. Davis

Conference communiqué

- Conclusions of the Meeting were issued which incorporated the *Canadian Constitutional Charter 1971 (Victoria Charter)*.

NOTES

- The Conference was held in Victoria, at the invitation of the Government of British Columbia, to mark the 100th anniversary of the province's entry into Confederation.
- The Conference sessions were closed, except for the morning of June 14 which was devoted to opening statements.
- The Conference agreed that new, proposed constitutional provisions which it had incorporated in a document named the *Canadian Constitutional Charter 1971* should be reported to all governments for consideration. The Charter was to be treated as a whole, and governments were asked to communicate their acceptance to the Secretary of the Conference by June 28, 1971, after which it would be recommended to the Legislative Assemblies and to Parliament. The Charter included constitutional provisions regarding "Political Rights", "Language Rights", "Provinces and Territories", the "Supreme Court of Canada", "Courts of Canada", a "Revised Section 94A" (income security), "Regional Disparities", "Federal-Provincial Consultation", "Amendments to the Constitution" and "Modernization of the Constitution".

NOTES *(continued)*

- For further reference see *The Constitutional Review 1968-1971, Secretary's Report*, Canadian Intergovernmental Conference Secretariat, Ottawa, 1974.

By June 28 all governments except Quebec and Saskatchewan had advised the Secretariat that the Charter was acceptable. On June 23 Quebec informed the Secretary that it could not recommend the Charter to its National Assembly because of the clauses dealing with income security. This resulted in eventually arresting for several years the process of constitutional review and patriation of the constitution.

Photo: Unknown

Delegates to the Federal-Provincial Constitutional Conference

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

November 15-17, 1971

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. The Economic Situation and Employment Problems
2. Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements
3. Tri-level Consultations
4. Other Business

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	38
Ontario	Hon. William G. Davis	17
Quebec	Hon. Robert Bourassa	21
Nova Scotia	Hon. Gerald A. Regan	8
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	8
Manitoba	Hon. Edward Schreyer	7
British Columbia	Hon. William A.C. Bennett	7
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Alexander B. Campbell	7
Saskatchewan	Hon. Allan E. Blakeney	10
Alberta	Hon. Peter Lougheed	13
Newfoundland	Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood	1
		137

Conference Secretary: Henry F. Davis

Conference communiqué

- General communiqué
  - Economic Situation and Employment Measures
  - Economic Consultation
    - Winter Employment Programs
    - Youth Employment Programs including Student Summer Employment
  - Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements
    - Taxation
    - Equalization and Stabilization
    - Post-Secondary Education
    - Canada Student Loans Plan
    - Health Programs in Canada
  - Consultation on Urban Affairs

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were closed.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

May 23-25, 1973

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Review of the Social Security System
2. Financing of Health Programs
3. Financing of Post-Secondary Education
4. Regional Economic Development
5. Current Economic Situation
6. Foreign Land Ownership
7. Future of the Secretariat of the Constitutional Conference

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	44
Ontario	Hon. William G. Davis	15
Quebec	Hon. Robert Bourassa	23
Nova Scotia	Hon. Gerald A. Regan	10
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	10
Manitoba	Hon. Edward Schreyer	9
British Columbia	Hon. David Barrett	9
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Alexander B. Campbell	5
Saskatchewan	Hon. Allan E. Blakeney	9
Alberta	Hon. Peter Lougheed	15
Newfoundland	Hon. Frank D. Moores	13
		162

Conference Secretary: Henry F. Davis

Conference communiqué

- General communiqué
  - Review of the Social Security System
  - Financing of Health Programs
  - Financing of Post-Secondary Education
  - Regional Economic Development
  - Current Economic Situation
  - Foreign Land Ownership
  - Future of the Secretariat of the Constitutional Conference

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were closed.
- First Ministers decided to continue the secretariat that had served their constitutional meetings during 1968-1971 under the new name of "Canadian Intergovernmental Conference Secretariat" (CICS), with the mandate to serve all future meetings of First Ministers as well as other intergovernmental meetings.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS ON ENERGY

January 22-23, 1974

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Opening Statements and Discussion Thereon
2. Oil and Gas Policy
3. Other Elements of a National Energy Policy
4. Federal-Provincial Mechanisms for Continuing Consultation on Energy Matters

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	38
Ontario	Hon. William G. Davis	11
Quebec	Hon. Robert Bourassa	22
Nova Scotia	Hon. Gerald A. Regan	11
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	8
Manitoba	Hon. Edward Schreyer	15
British Columbia	Hon. David Barrett	15
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Alexander B. Campbell	8
Saskatchewan	Hon. Allan E. Blakeney	19
Alberta	Hon. Peter Lougheed	21
Newfoundland	Hon. Frank D. Moores	15
		183

Conference Secretary: Henry F. Davis

No Conference communique issued.

NOTES

- Since the May 1973 First Ministers' Conference, Premiers of the four Western Provinces had met with the Prime Minister of Canada at a "Western Economic Opportunities Conference" held in Calgary from July 24 to 26, 1973.
- The Conference sessions were open.
- Official observers invited by governments were present. They included federal Members of Parliament, Senators, representatives of the two Territories and federal and provincial Opposition Leaders.
- At the end of the meeting, the Chairman read notes reflecting the consensus which had been reached by the First Ministers.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS ON ENERGY

April 9-10, 1975

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Oil and gas prices and other related issues
2. The state of the economy

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	43
Ontario	Hon. William G. Davis	10
Quebec	Hon. Robert Bourassa	20
Nova Scotia	Hon. Gerald A. Regan	12
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	12
Manitoba	Hon. Edward Schreyer	8
British Columbia	Hon. David Barrett	10
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Alexander B. Campbell	8
Saskatchewan	Hon. Allan E. Blakeney	14
Alberta	Hon. Peter Lougheed	17
Newfoundland	Hon. Frank D. Moores	15
		169

Conference Secretary: Henry F. Davis

No Conference communique issued.

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were open.
- Official observers were invited by governments, as in the January 22-23, 1974 conference.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS

June 14-15, 1976

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda was issued. The subject discussed was federal-provincial fiscal arrangements including:

- Shared-cost programs
- Revenue guarantee
- Equalization

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	32
Ontario	Hon. William G. Davis	19
Quebec	Hon. Robert Bourassa	12
Nova Scotia	Hon. Gerald A. Regan	10
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	11
Manitoba	Hon. Edward Schreyer	9
British Columbia	Hon. William R. Bennett	15
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Alexander B. Campbell	7
Saskatchewan	Hon. Allan E. Blakeney	9
Alberta	Hon. Peter Lougheed	14
Newfoundland	Hon. Frank D. Moores	10
		148

Conference Secretary: Henry F. Davis

Photo: National Film Board/76-854

Ontario Premier Hon. William G. Davis with Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were closed.
- According to reports in the *Globe and Mail*, the meeting ended in a disagreement between provincial and federal governments over the Prime Minister's refusal to negotiate the possibility of extending the revenue guarantee program for provinces.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS

December 13-14, 1976

Main Hall and Centennial Room, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Fiscal Arrangements
2. State of the Economy

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	38
Ontario	Hon. William G. Davis	20
Quebec	Hon. René Lévesque	21
Nova Scotia	Hon. Gerald A. Regan	7
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	13
Manitoba	Hon. Edward Schreyer	7
British Columbia	Hon. William R. Bennett	13
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Alexander B. Campbell	7
Saskatchewan	Hon. Allan E. Blakeney	9
Alberta	Hon. Peter Lougheed	12
Newfoundland	Hon. Frank D. Moores	9
		156

Conference Secretary: Henry F. Davis

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- At the opening of the Conference in the Main Hall of the Conference Centre, the First Ministers discussed whether the meeting should be open or closed. Upon it being decided the Conference would be closed, certain members of the press refused to leave, whereupon the Conference adjourned and continued with closed proceedings in the Centennial Room of the Conference Centre.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS ON THE ECONOMY

February 13-15, 1978

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Economic Outlook and Objectives
2. General Economic Policies
   - Growth and cost of the public sector
   - Government economic regulation
   - Labour relations
   - Commercial policy
   - Energy
   - Other issues
   - Industry
3. Regional Aspects of Economic Development
4. Sectoral Policies
   - Mining
   - Agriculture and Transportation
   - Housing
   - Fisheries
   - Forestry
   - Tourism
   - Industry
5. Follow-up Arrangements
6. Conclusion and Summing-Up
7. Other Business

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	114
Ontario	Hon. William G. Davis	26
Quebec	Hon. René Lévesque	26
Nova Scotia	Hon. Gerald A. Regan	15
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	21
Manitoba	Hon. Sterling R. Lyon	9
British Columbia	Hon. William R. Bennett	16
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Alexander B. Campbell	10
Saskatchewan	Hon. Allan E. Blakeney	11
Alberta	Hon. Peter Lougheed	20
Newfoundland	Hon. Frank D. Moores	14
		282

Conference Secretary: Henry F. Davis

Conference communiqué

- Conclusions of the Conference
  - Medium-Term Objectives
  - Demand Management Policies
  - Prices and Incomes Policies
  - The Business Environment
  - Trade and Industrial Policy
  - Manpower Policies
  - Regional Policies
  - Energy
  - Agriculture
  - Tourism
  - Fisheries
  - Forestry
  - Housing
  - Manufacturing Industries

Attached to the Annex of the Conclusions of the Conference, several other major capital projects were discussed, including energy and fisheries.

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were open, and official observers invited by governments were present.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS ON THE CONSTITUTION

October 30, 31 and November 1, 1978

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Introductory Statements
2. Charter of Rights
3. Distribution of Powers
4. Institutions
5. Process of Constitutional Review
6. Duplication of Services
7. Working lunch to discuss Follow-up (In camera)
8. Conclusion (open session)

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	64
Ontario	Hon. William G. Davis	16
Quebec	Hon. René Levesque	15
Nova Scotia	Hon. John M. Buchanan	8
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	10
Manitoba	Hon. Sterling R. Lyon	10
British Columbia	Hon. William R. Bennett	13
Prince Edward Island	Hon. W. Bennett Campbell	4
Saskatchewan	Hon. Allan E. Blakeney	11
Alberta	Hon. Peter Lougheed	19
Newfoundland	Hon. Frank D. Moores	17
		187

Conference Secretary: Henry F. Davis

Conference communiqué

- General communiqué
  - Introduction
  - The Renewal of the Constitution
  - Process of Renewal

In addition, the First Ministers agreed on the importance and urgency of constitutional change, and established a committee of federal and provincial ministers to meet and report to First Ministers before their next conference on the constitution scheduled for February 1979. This Committee became known as the Continuing Committee of Ministers on the Constitution, or "CCMC".

NOTES

- The Conference was preceded by the introduction of Bill C-60 in Parliament which contained extensive proposals for constitutional change. The Bill had been the subject of discussions by the Premiers at their Annual Conference in August 1978.
- The Conference sessions were open.
- In addition to the usual official observers, representatives of national and provincial native organizations and of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities were also present.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS ON THE ECONOMY

November 27-29, 1978

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Economic Overview
2. Labour Market and Employment Issues
3. Progress Report:
   - Overview
   - Agriculture
   - Research and Development
   - Government Regulation
   - Public Sector Compensation
4. Specific Items:
   - Industrial Development
   - Tourism
   - Energy
   - Minerals
   - Fisheries
   - Regional Development
   - Transportation
5. Economic Co-ordination Process
6. Conclusion and Summing-Up

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	113
Ontario	Hon. William G. Davis	16
Quebec	Hon. René Lévesque	31
Nova Scotia	Hon. John M. Buchanan	13
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	15
Manitoba	Hon. Sterling R. Lyon	12
British Columbia	Hon. William R. Bennett	18
Prince Edward Island	Hon. W. Bennett Campbell	5
Saskatchewan	Hon. Allan E. Blakeney	14
Alberta	Hon. Peter Lougheed	24
Newfoundland	Hon. Frank D. Moores	12
		273

Conference Secretary: Henry F. Davis

Conference communiqué

- Summary of Conclusions
  - Economic Overview
  - Labour Market and Employment Issues
  - Progress Report
    - Overview
    - Agriculture
    - Research and Development
    - Government Regulation
    - Public Sector Compensation
  - Specific Items
    - Industrial Development
    - Tourism
    - Energy
    - Minerals
    - Fisheries
    - Regional Development
    - Transportation

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were open.
- Official observers were invited by governments, as in the January 22-23, 1974 conference.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS ON THE CONSTITUTION

February 5-6, 1979

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

A. Consideration of questions raised at the Constitutional Conference (October 30 – November 1, 1978):

1. Resource Ownership and Interprovincial Trade
2. Indirect Taxation
3. Communications
4. Senate
5. Supreme Court
6. Family Law
7. Fisheries
8. Offshore Resources
9. Equalization and Regional Development
10. Charter of Rights
11. Spending Power
12. Declaratory Power
13. The Amending Formula, Patriation and Delegation of Legislative Authority
14. Monarchy

B. Future Constitutional Work Program

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	74
Ontario	Hon. William G. Davis	17
Quebec	Hon. René Lévesque	17
Nova Scotia	Hon. John M. Buchanan	11
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	9
Manitoba	Hon. Sterling R. Lyon	11
British Columbia	Hon. William R. Bennett	14
Prince Edward Island	Hon. W. Bennett Campbell	4
Saskatchewan	Hon. Allan E. Blakeney	15
Alberta	Hon. Peter Lougheed	23
Newfoundland	Hon. Frank D. Moores	13
		208

Conference Secretary: Henry F. Davis

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The First Ministers received reports from the Continuing Committee of Ministers on the Constitution (CCMC) concerning the 14 items (see agenda of Conference) which the First Ministers had submitted to the Committee for review.
- The first day of the Conference was closed, the second day was open.
- At the conclusion of the meeting the Chairman indicated that, as part of the future constitutional work program, the CCMC should review a second list of items, and that the Committee, or officials, should also meet with the native peoples and make recommendations to First Ministers.
- In addition to the usual official observers, members of the Pepin-Robarts Commission were present at the open sessions.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS ON ENERGY

November 12, 1979

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No formal agenda issued. Among the subjects discussed were:

- Oil supply
- Pricing and use in Canada
- Energy pricing policy
- Energy development
- Conservation
- Self-sufficiency

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Joe Clark (Chair)	34
Ontario	Hon. William G. Davis	15
Quebec	Hon. Yves Bérubé, Minister of Energy and Resources	11
Nova Scotia	Hon. John M. Buchanan	6
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	6
Manitoba	Hon. Sterling R. Lyon	5
British Columbia	Hon. William R. Bennett	8
Prince Edward Island	Hon. J. Angus MacLean	4
Saskatchewan	Hon. Allan E. Blakeney	11
Alberta	Hon. Peter Lougheed	13
Newfoundland	Hon. A. Brian Peckford	8
		121

Conference Secretary: Andre S. Millar

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The morning session of the Conference was open. However, following its adjournment for lunch the First Ministers continued their discussions in private at 24 Sussex Drive during the afternoon, and the full Conference was not reconvened.
- Official observers were invited by governments, as in the January 22-23, 1974 conference.
- At the Chairman's request, the First Ministers met around a circular table limited to the 11 heads of delegations.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS ON THE CONSTITUTION

September 8-13, 1980

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

- Resource Ownership and Interprovincial Trade
- Communications
- New Upper House, involving the Provinces
- Supreme Court
- Family Law
- Fisheries
- Offshore Resources
- Equalization
- Charter of Rights
- Patriation and Amending Formula
- Powers over the Economy
  - Economic Union
  - Trade and Commerce
- The Preamble/Principles

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	88
Ontario	Hon. William G. Davis	20
Quebec	Hon. René Lévesque	25
Nova Scotia	Hon. John M. Buchanan	18
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	18
Manitoba	Hon. Sterling R. Lyon	15
British Columbia	Hon. William R. Bennett	25
Prince Edward Island	Hon. J. Angus MacLean	10
Saskatchewan	Hon. Allan E. Blakeney	20
Alberta	Hon. Peter Lougheed	24
Newfoundland	Hon. A. Brian Peckford	18
		281

Conference Secretary: Edward J. Watson

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- Prior to the Conference, the 11 First Ministers had met at 24 Sussex Drive in a private, informal meeting on June 9, 1980. The meeting had been called by the Prime Minister of Canada following the Quebec referendum on the issue of sovereignty-association, and was designed to lay plans for renewed constitutional discussions. At the June 9 meeting, the First Ministers had asked the Continuing Committee of Ministers on the Constitution (CCMC) to reconvene and review, during the summer, the twelve items listed on the Conference agenda.
- The Conference discussed the agenda items on the basis of reports from the CCMC. It also discussed section 96 of the *British North America Act*.
- The Conference concluded, without agreement being reached, with closing statements made by First Ministers on the morning of September 13.
- The Conference sessions were open except for September 12, when the First Ministers met privately at 24 Sussex Drive.
- Official observers were present during open sessions. They included the leaders of the Opposition and the New Democratic Party, other Parliamentarians, the territorial delegations and other observers designated by the provinces, representatives the National Indian Brotherhood, the Inuit Committee on National Issues and the Native Council of Canada and observers from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.
- For the first time the Government Leaders of the Northwest Territories and the Yukon Territory were invited as independent observers.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.

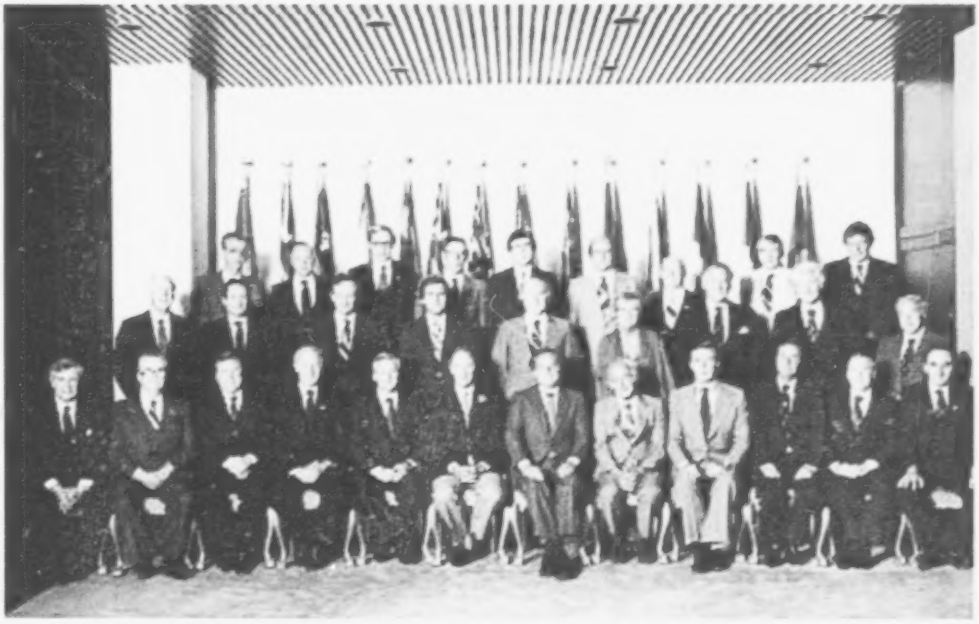

Photo: John Evans – Ottawa/National Archives

Representatives to the Federal-Provincial Conference of First Ministers on the Constitution with the Governor General

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS ON THE CONSTITUTION

November 2-5, 1981

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No public agenda was issued. Among the subjects discussed were:

- Patriation
- Constitutional amendment formula
- Charter of rights

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	43
Ontario	Hon. William G. Davis	12
Quebec	Monsieur René Lévesque	15
Nova Scotia	Hon. John M. Buchanan	6
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	13
Manitoba	Hon. Sterling R. Lyon	6
British Columbia	Hon. William R. Bennett	9
Prince Edward Island	Hon. J. Angus MacLean	6
Saskatchewan	Hon. Allan E. Blakeney	14
Alberta	Hon. Peter Lougheed	14
Newfoundland	Hon. A. Brian Peckford	7
		145

Conference Secretary: Edward J. Watson

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The Conference began with an open session on November 2, after which the First Ministers met in private until the afternoon of November 5, when they reconvened in an open session to deliver closing statements.
- When the Conference reconvened on November 5, the Chairman announced that a consensus had been reached on patriation, amending formula and a charter of rights. The "First Ministers Agreement on the Constitution" was later signed at the Conference table by all governments except Quebec. The agreement also provided for the discussion of constitutional matters that directly affect the aboriginal peoples of Canada, at a subsequent constitutional conference at which representatives of the aboriginal peoples would be invited to participate.
- Official observers were present during the open sessions, as in the September 8-13, 1980 conference.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.
- This was the first conference of First Ministers at which the Premier of Quebec was styled "Monsieur" rather than "Honourable". While the practice varied in the intervening years, from 1988 on "Monsieur" has been consistently used.

NOTES *(continued)*

Following the First Ministers' Conference, the Quebec government re-stated its opposition to the agreement reached at the Conference through a resolution passed by the Quebec National Assembly on December 1, 1981.

Patriation of the constitution together with an amending formula and a charter of rights was subsequently effected on April 17, 1982 when the Queen, at a ceremony on Parliament Hill in Ottawa, signed a proclamation giving effect to the "Constitution Act, 1982".

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS ON THE ECONOMY

February 2-5, 1982

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Economic Management
2. Economic Development

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau Chair)	35
Ontario	Hon. William G. Davis	12
Quebec	Monsieur Rene Levesque	26
Nova Scotia	Hon. John M. Buchanan	10
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	19
Manitoba	Hon. Howard Pawley	8
British Columbia	Hon. William R. Bennett	14
Prince Edward Island	Hon. James M. Lee	10
Saskatchewan	Hon. Allan E. Blakeney	17
Alberta	Hon. Peter Lougheed	19
Newfoundland	Hon. A. Brian Peckford	14
		184

Conference Secretary: Edward J. Watson

No Conference communique issued.

NOTES

- The Conference was called to discuss the renewal of the Canadian economy. Amongst the subjects discussed were federal-provincial fiscal arrangements, inflation, interest rates, wage and price controls and unemployment.
- The Conference began with opening statements made in an open session on February 2, after which the First Ministers met in private until the evening of February 4, when they reconvened in an open session to deliver closing statements.
- Official observers were present during open sessions. They included the leaders of the Opposition and the New Democratic Party, other Parliamentarians, the territorial delegations and other observers designated by the provinces.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS ON ABORIGINAL CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

March 15-16, 1983

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Charter of Rights of the Aboriginal Peoples (expanded Part II) including:
   - Preamble
   - Removal of "existing", and expansion of section 35 to include recognition of modern treaties, treaties signed outside Canada and before Confederation, and specific mention of "aboriginal title" including the rights of aboriginal peoples of Canada to a land and water base (including land base for the Metis)
   - Statement of the particular rights of aboriginal peoples
   - Statement of principles
   - Equality
   - Enforcement
   - Interpretation
2. Amending Formula Revisions, including:
   - Amendments on aboriginal matters not to be subject to provincial opting out (section 42)
   - Consent clause
3. Self-government
4. Repeal of section 42(1)(e) and (f)
5. Amendments to Part III, including:
   - Equalization
   - Cost-sharing
   - Service Delivery

   } Resourcing of Aboriginal Governments
6. Ongoing process, including further FMC's and the entrenchment of necessary mechanisms to implement rights.

First Ministers and Heads of Delegations Attending

		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	32
Ontario	Hon. William G. Davis	29
Quebec	Monsieur René Levesque	28
Nova Scotia	Hon. John M. Buchanan	9
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	16
Manitoba	Hon. Howard Pawley	28
British Columbia	Hon. William R. Bennett	6
Prince Edward Island	Hon. James M. Lee	8
Saskatchewan	Hon. Grant Devine	30
Alberta	Hon. Peter Lougheed	18
Newfoundland	Hon. A. Brian Peckford	8
Yukon	Hon. Chris Pearson	7
Northwest Territories	Hon. George Braden	11
Assembly of First Nations	David Ahenakew, National Chief	53
Inuit Committee on National Issues	John Amagoalik, President, Inuit Tapirisat of Canada	30
Metis National Council	Jim Sinclair, President, Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan	20
Native Council of Canada	Louis Bruyère, President	33
		366

Conference Secretary: Andre S. Millar

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The Conference was convened as a result of Section 37 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* which specified that a constitutional conference should be called within one year of the provision coming into force, and that the conference should include "an item respecting constitutional matters that directly affect the aboriginal peoples of Canada, including the identification and definition of the rights of those peoples to be included in the Constitution of Canada, and the Prime Minister of Canada shall invite representatives of those peoples to participate in the discussions on that item". Section 37 went on to stipulate that "elected representatives of the governments of the Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories" should also be invited to participate in the discussions on any item on the conference agenda that "in the opinion of the Prime Minister directly affects the Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories". Consequently, at the table with the 11 Canadian First Ministers, were the representatives of the four national Canadian aboriginal associations and of the two Territorial governments, each of the six groups attending as a Conference delegation.
- Quebec explained that its presence at the Conference, which had been convened under the patriated constitution, should not be interpreted as an implicit recognition of that constitution by Quebec which did not recognize its legitimacy.
- The Conference sessions were open, and the proceedings began with the Chairman giving the floor to the Assembly of First Nations which had requested the recitation of a traditional Indian prayer. The Chairman also noted that the agenda had been developed together with representatives of the aboriginal peoples.
- Official observers were invited, as in the February 2-5, 1982 conference.
- At the close of the Conference, the "1983 Constitutional Accord on Aboriginal Rights" was signed by all delegations except Quebec. The Accord provided that a constitutional Conference of First Ministers, including representatives of the aboriginal peoples of Canada and of the Territorial governments, should be convened within one year; and that the *Constitution Act, 1982* should be amended to provide, among other things, for two additional First Ministers' Conferences by April 17, 1987 to discuss aboriginal constitutional matters. (That amendment, subsequently effected, became the first modification to the Canadian constitution under the terms of the amending formula agreed upon at the FMC of November 1981.)
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS' ON ABORIGINAL CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

March 8-9, 1984

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Equality Rights
2. Aboriginal Title and Aboriginal Rights, Treaties and Treaty Rights
3. Land and Resources
4. Aboriginal or Self-Government

First Ministers and Heads of Delegations Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Chair)	38
Ontario	Hon. William G. Davis	21
Quebec	Monsieur René Lévesque	31
Nova Scotia	Hon. John M. Buchanan	11
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	15
Manitoba	Hon. Howard Pawley	21
British Columbia	Hon. William R. Bennett	9
Prince Edward Island	Hon. James M. Lee	14
Saskatchewan	Hon. Grant Devine	21
Alberta	Hon. Peter Lougheed	13
Newfoundland	Hon. A. Brian Peckford	13
Yukon	Hon. Chris Pearson	11
Northwest Territories	Hon. Richard Nerysoo	25
Assembly of First Nations	David Ahenakew, National Chief	86
Inuit Committee on National Issues	John Amagoalik, Co-chairperson	46
Métis National Council	Jim Sinclair, Métis National Council Executive Committee	58
Native Council of Canada	Louis Bruyère, President	54
		487

Conference Secretary: Stuart MacKinnon

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were open, and essentially duplicated the arrangements and procedures which had been in place for the previous FMC in 1983, during which First Ministers had agreed to meet again within one year.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.

Photo : Andrews Newton Photography (Greg Newton)/
84-0169/102 (800-18/132)

Federal-Provincial Conference of First Ministers on Aboriginal Constitutional Matters in session

FIRST MINISTERS' CONFERENCE ON THE ECONOMY

February 14-15, 1985

Centennial Theatre, Saskatchewan Centre of the Arts, Regina, Saskatchewan

Agenda

1. Attracting and encouraging new investment to help create jobs (Investment)
2. Upgrading the skills of our citizens (Training and Retraining)
3. Regional economic development opportunities based on the strength of each region
4. Improving the competitiveness and marketing of our goods and services (International Trade)

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney (Chair)	79
Ontario	Hon. Frank S. Miller	21
Quebec	Monsieur René Lévesque	23
Nova Scotia	Hon. John M. Buchanan	15
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	14
Manitoba	Hon. Howard Pawley	13
British Columbia	Hon. William R. Bennett	9
Prince Edward Island	Hon. James M. Lee	7
Saskatchewan	Hon. Grant Devine	38
Alberta	Hon. Peter Lougheed	24
Newfoundland	Hon. A. Brian Peckford	13
		256

Conference Secretary: Stuart MacKinnon

Conference communiqué

- The 11 First Ministers signed a "Memorandum of Agreement" (later known as the "Regina Accord") in which they undertook to meet at least once a year as the "Annual Conference of First Ministers" to, among other things, review the state of federal-provincial relations, consult on the state of the economy and consider broad objectives for governments in Canada. The agreement stipulated that it would be in effect for five years, and that it was renewable for a similar period.

NOTES

- This was the first federal-provincial FMC held outside Ottawa since 1971. In his opening remarks the Chairman noted that in the past most FMC's had been held in Ottawa, and indicated that in his judgment efforts should be made to hold major federal-provincial meetings elsewhere as well, in order to recognize Canada's regional diversity.
- The Conference sessions were open.
- The Government Leaders of Yukon and the Northwest Territories, who were present as official observers, were invited by the Chairman to address the Conference.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.

FIRST MINISTERS' CONFERENCE ON ABORIGINAL CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

April 2-3, 1985

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Self-Government for the Aboriginal Peoples
2. Sexual Equality Rights
3. Mandate for Continued Discussions
4. Nature of an Accord

First Ministers and Heads of Delegations Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney (Chair)	35
Ontario	Hon. Frank S. Miller	22
Quebec	Monsieur René Lévesque	35
Nova Scotia	Hon. John M. Buchanan	14
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	16
Manitoba	Hon. Howard Pawley	30
British Columbia	Hon. William R. Bennett	10
Prince Edward Island	Hon. James M. Lee	6
Saskatchewan	Hon. Grant Devine	10
Alberta	Hon. Peter Lougheed	21
Newfoundland	Hon. Robert Aylward, Minister of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development	4
Yukon	Hon. Willard Phelps	11
Northwest Territories	Hon. Richard Nerysoo	23
Assembly of First Nations	David Ahenakew, National Chief	71
Inuit Committee on National Issues	John Amagoalik, Co-chairperson	45
Métis National Council	Clem Chartier, Constitutional Chairman	96
Native Council of Canada	Louis Bruyère, President	28
		477

Conference Secretary: Stuart MacKinnon

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The Conference sessions were open with arrangements similar to the 1983 and 1984 FMCs. This was the first of the two constitutional conferences specified under the earlier amendment to the *Constitution Act, 1982*.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.

Photo: Andrews-Newton Photography (Greg Newton)/
85-0226/77 (800-20/77)

Federal-Provincial Conference on Aboriginal Constitutional Matters in session

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS

November 28-29, 1985

Port Royal Room, World Trade and Convention Centre, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Agenda

1. Review of the state of federal-provincial relations
2. Overview of the economic and fiscal situation
3. Trade
4. Agriculture and fisheries
5. Economic and social development

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney (Chair)	97
Ontario	Hon. David Peterson	15
Quebec	Hon. Pierre Marc Johnson	30
Nova Scotia	Hon. John M. Buchanan	23
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	18
Manitoba	Hon. Howard Pawley	11
British Columbia	Hon. William R. Bennett	8
Prince Edward Island	Hon. James M. Lee	11
Saskatchewan	Hon. Grant Devine	15
Alberta	Hon. Donald R. Getty	22
Newfoundland	Hon. A. Brian Peckford	18
		269

Conference Secretary: Stuart MacKinnon

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The Conference was the first Annual First Ministers' Conference convened pursuant to the February 1985 Regina Accord.
- The Conference sessions were open.
- An agreement reached by federal and provincial ministers during the Conference concerning provincial participation in the forthcoming Canada-USA and GATT trade negotiations was issued.
- As at the previous Regina FMC, the Government Leaders of Yukon and the Northwest Territories, who were present as official observers, were invited by the Chairman to address the Conference.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS

November 20-21, 1986

Pacific Ballroom, Hotel Vancouver, Vancouver, British Columbia

Agenda

1. Review of the State of the Federation and the Economy
2. Economic Development
3. Economic Equality for Women

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney (Chair)	96
Ontario	Hon. David Peterson	13
Quebec	Hon. Robert Bourassa	25
Nova Scotia	Hon. John M. Buchanan	9
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	9
Manitoba	Hon. Howard Pawley	15
British Columbia	Hon. William N. Vander Zalm	19
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Joseph A. Ghiz	8
Saskatchewan	Hon. Grant Devine	17
Alberta	Hon. Donald R. Getty	13
Newfoundland	Hon. A. Brian Peckford	12
		236

Conference Secretary: Stuart MacKinnon

Conference communiqué

- In addition to their review of the economy, the First Ministers issued a communiqué on the Quebec Constitutional Issue stating their satisfaction with the process followed to date, and their hope to conclude during the coming months an agreement that will enable Quebec to become again a full partner in the Canadian federation, and to undertake later another stage in constitutional reform.

NOTES

- This was the Second Annual Conference of First Ministers convened under the Regina Accord.
- The Conference sessions were open.
- The Government Leader of each Territory, present as an official observer, addressed the Conference.
- Commenting on these annual meetings at the close of the Conference, the Chairman remarked that they "are becoming an important part of the annual public policy processes, both for the provincial and the federal governments. The regularized meetings of First Ministers is imposing a greater focus and discipline on how individual governments address many of the issues with which they are regularly faced... The annual First Ministers' Conference is thus establishing itself as an important factor in this nation's business..".
- Following the Conference, the First Ministers met privately to review the ongoing trade negotiations with the U.S.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.

FIRST MINISTERS' CONFERENCE ON ABORIGINAL CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

March 26-27, 1987

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. A Constitutional Amendment on Aboriginal Self-Government
2. Treaties and Treaty Issues

First Ministers and Heads of Delegations Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney (Chair)	56
Ontario	Hon. David Peterson	4
Quebec	Monsieur Gil Rémillard, Minister responsible for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs	10
Nova Scotia	Hon. John M. Buchanan	13
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	11
Manitoba	Hon. Howard Pawley	11
British Columbia	Hon. William N. Vander Zalm	8
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Joseph A. Ghiz	6
Saskatchewan	Hon. Grant Devine	14
Alberta	Hon. Donald R. Getty	13
Newfoundland	Hon. A. Brian Peckford	13
Yukon	Hon. Tony Penikett	6
Northwest Territories	Hon. Nick Sibbeston	21
Assembly of First Nations	George Erasmus, Spokesman	40
Inuit Committee on National Issues	John Amagoalik, Co-chairperson	44
Metis National Council	Jim Sinclair, President, Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan	83
Native Council of Canada	Louis Bruyère, President	27
		380

Conference Secretary: Stuart MacKinnon

No Conference communique issued.

NOTES

- This was the last FMC on aboriginal constitutional matters provided by the earlier amendment to the *Constitution Act, 1982*.
- The Conference sessions were open, except for an adjournment during the morning of the second day when the First Ministers and the Aboriginal and Territorial Leaders left the Main Hall to meet in private.
- Quebec explained that its Premier could not participate in a process prescribed by a constitutional enactment which had been adopted without its consent, and that its presence nevertheless at the Conference table should not be seen as recognition of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.

Photo: Andrews-Newton Photography (Greg Newton)/87-0184/108 (800-23/108)

First Ministers' Conference on Aboriginal Constitutional Matters in session

FIRST MINISTERS' CONFERENCE ON THE CONSTITUTION

June 3, 1987

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Official Signature of the 1987 Constitutional Accord
2. Statements

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney (Chair)	69
Ontario	Hon. David Peterson	18
Quebec	Hon. Robert Bourassa	18
Nova Scotia	Hon. John M. Buchanan	7
New Brunswick	Hon. Richard B. Hatfield	8
Manitoba	Hon. Howard Pawley	10
British Columbia	Hon. William N. Vander Zalm	6
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Joseph A. Ghiz	6
Saskatchewan	Hon. Grant Devine	8
Alberta	Hon. Donald R. Getty	10
Newfoundland	Hon. A. Brian Peckford	10
		170

Conference Secretary: Stuart MacKinnon

Photo: SSC Photocentre/Supply and Services Canada/PA-8788-080

First Ministers' Conference on the Constitution in session

No Conference communique issued.

NOTES

- The Conference was a ceremonial event for the signing of the "1987 Constitutional Accord".
- The First Ministers had previously met privately and informally, first at Meech Lake near Ottawa on April 30, and subsequently at the Langevin Block in Ottawa on June 2 until 5:30 a.m. on the morning of the Conference on June 3.
- The Langevin Block meeting resulted in a unanimous agreement on the Accord, which was signed at the Conference Centre seven hours later together with statements by each First Minister.
- The "1987 Constitutional Accord" set out constitutional amendments to "bring about the full and active participation of Quebec in Canada's constitutional evolution . . ", and committed the federal and provincial governments to proceed with a resolution in Parliament and the legislative assemblies to amend the constitution accordingly. The proposed amendments were extensive. They provided for:
  - The recognition of Quebec's distinct society;
  - Provincial participation in appointments to the Senate and the Supreme Court of Canada and the constitutional recognition of the Court;
  - The negotiation of federal-provincial agreements on immigration;
  - Compensation to provinces not participating in shared-cost programs in areas of provincial jurisdiction;
  - Changes to the amending formula with respect to matters requiring unanimous consent;
  - Compensation following a transfer of provincial powers to Parliament; and
  - Annual Conferences of First Ministers on the economy and the constitution.
- The Conference session was open. No official observers had been invited, since the event was a continuation of the previous closed proceedings at the Langevin Block.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open session.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS

November 26-27, 1987

Metropolitan Ballroom East, Harbour Castle Convention Centre, Toronto, Ontario

Agenda

1. Opening Statements
2. Ministerial Reports
3. Economic Development

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney (Chair)	96
Ontario	Hon. David Peterson	23
Quebec	Hon. Robert Bourassa	21
Nova Scotia	Hon. John M. Buchanan	13
New Brunswick	Hon. Frank McKenna	11
Manitoba	Hon. Howard Pawley	15
British Columbia	Hon. William N. Vander Zalm	8
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Joseph A. Ghiz	7
Saskatchewan	Hon. Grant Devine	11
Alberta	Hon. Donald R. Getty	12
Newfoundland	Hon. A. Brian Peckford	12
		229

Conference Secretary: Stuart MacKinnon

Photo: SSC Photocentre/
Supply and Services Canada/PA 87BB 347

Conference in session

No Conference communique issued.

NOTES

- This was the Third Annual Conference of First Ministers convened under the Regina Accord.
- The Conference sessions were open, except for a closed session with limited attendance held in a secondary meeting room during the afternoon of the 26th.
- The Government Leader off each Territory, present as an official observer, addressed the Conference.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS

November 9-10, 1989

Main Hall, Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Opening Statements
2. Federal-Provincial Priorities and Ministerial Reports
3. Environment/Sustainable Development
4. Meech Lake Accord

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney (Chairman)	95
Ontario	Hon. David Peterson	18
Quebec	Monsieur Robert Bourassa	21
Nova Scotia	Hon. John M. Buchanan	11
New Brunswick	Hon. Frank McKenna	6
Manitoba	Hon. Gary Filmon	15
British Columbia	Hon. William N. Vander Zalm	15
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Joseph A. Ghiz	10
Saskatchewan	Hon. Grant Devine	13
Alberta	Hon. Donald R. Getty	20
Newfoundland	Hon. Clyde K. Wells	11
		235

Conference Secretary: Stuart MacKinnon

Conference communiqués

- Integration of Work and Family Responsibilities
- Commitment to Economic Equality for Women
- Research and Development
- Environment and Sustainable Development
- Human Resource Development

NOTES

- At the outset of the conference the Chairman stated that "this is the final conference provided for in the five-year agreement that we signed in Regina...Regular First Ministers' Conferences, I think, have restored some of Canada's traditions of cooperative federalism."
- The Conference consisted of an open session on the 9th and one on the 10th interspersed with closed sessions held in a secondary meeting room with limited attendance.
- The Meech Lake Accord was referred to in various opening statements and further discussed in a private session. At the conclusion of the meeting, the Chairman in a press conference, announced that "the First Ministers today agreed that a constructive and helpful meeting was held this afternoon on the issue of constitutional reform. I will instruct Senator Murray to meet with provincial representatives to explore the possibility of movement on the Meech Lake Accord. Having been given complete support by First Ministers, Senator Murray will intensify and seek to accelerate the process of meaningful Senate reform started in Saskatoon... If progress is deemed appropriate on the provisions of the Meech Lake Accord, a further meeting of First Ministers will be convened by the Prime Minister to deal with this matter."
- The Government Leader of each Territory, present as an official observer, addressed the Conference.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.
- The practice of styling the Quebec Premier as "Monsieur" rather than "Honourable" continues from this date.

FIRST MINISTERS' CONFERENCE ON THE CONSTITUTION

June 3-10, 1990

Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Discussion on the 1987 Constitutional Accord (Meech Lake)
2. Statements

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney (Chair)	84
Ontario	Hon. David Peterson	24
Quebec	Monsieur Robert Bourassa	23
Nova Scotia	Hon. John M. Buchanan	4
New Brunswick	Hon. Frank McKenna	11
Manitoba	Hon. Gary Filmon	16
British Columbia	Hon. William N. Vander Zalm	11
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Joseph A. Ghiz	4
Saskatchewan	Hon. Grant Devine	11
Alberta	Hon. Donald Getty	13
Newfoundland	Hon. Clyde Wells	12
		213

Conference Secretary: Stuart MacKinnon

Conference communiqué

- Final Communiqué
  - The Meech Lake Accord
  - Senate Reform
  - Further Constitutional Amendments
    - Charter – Sex Equality Rights
    - Role of the Territories
    - Language Issues
    - Aboriginal Constitutional Issues
  - Agenda for Future Constitutional Discussions
    - Creation of New Provinces in the Territories
    - Constitutional Recognitions
    - Constitutional Reviews
  - Section 2: Constitution Amendment, 1987
  - New Brunswick Amendment

NOTES

- Under the provisions of the amending formula in the *Constitution Act 1982*, the deadline for the ratification of the *Constitutional Amendment 1987* (Meech Lake Accord) was June 23, 1990. By late May 1990, the Accord still required ratification by the legislatures of Manitoba, New Brunswick and Newfoundland in order to come into effect.

NOTES *(continued)*

- In an effort to achieve consensus on the Accord, the Prime Minister invited the Premiers to a working dinner on Sunday, June 3, to be followed by a First Ministers' Conference the next morning if the discussions went well.
- The dinner was held at the Museum of Civilization in Hull, Quebec. This was followed by private meetings of First Ministers in the Centennial Room of the Conference Centre beginning on the morning of Monday, June 4, and continuing each day until the evening of Saturday, June 9, when an open session was convened. That session ran for approximately 2 3/4 hours into the early morning of June 10.
- The open session began with the signing of the 1990 Constitutional Agreement which provided the following:
    - An undertaking by the Premiers of New Brunswick, Manitoba and Newfoundland to submit the Meech Lake Accord for "appropriate legislative or public consideration and to use every possible effort to achieve decision prior to June 23, 1990". (Premier Wells of Newfoundland signed with the proviso that he would fully endorse the Agreement if the Meech Lake Accord was "given legislative or public approval following the consultation provided for in Part I".)

After Proclamation of the Meech Lake Accord

- Formation of a national Commission on Senate Reform to conduct hearings and to report prior to an FMC to be held at the end of 1990 in British Columbia to consider specific proposals that would give effect to the objective of the Senate with elected members, more equitable representation and effective powers.
- A commitment to Senate reform as the key constitutional priority until comprehensive reform is achieved.
- Agreement to seek adoption of an amendment on comprehensive Senate reform by July 1, 1995. If that objective was not achieved then specific changes in Senate representation by province were provided for.
- Agreement to make constitutional amendments on the following:
    - Sexual equality rights
    - The role of the Territories in appointments to the Senate and Supreme Court and in constitutional and economic conferences
    - A New Brunswick amendment on the equality of status for the English and French languages
    - First Ministers' Conferences on aboriginal constitutional issues to be held every three years
    - (Constitutional legal texts on these issues were appended)
- Agreement on the following agenda items for future constitutional discussions:
    - Creation of new provinces in the territories
    - Consideration of constitutional recognitions (Canada clause)
    - Review entire process of amending the Constitution
- The Government Leader of each Territory, present as an official observer, addressed the Conference.
- A Verbatim Transcript was prepared for the open sessions.

The Meech Lake Accord did not receive the necessary number of ratifications in time and therefore the 1990 Constitutional Agreement did not come into effect.

FIRST MINISTERS' MEETING ON THE ECONOMY

December 19, 1991

Lester B. Pearson Building, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda issued. The subject discussed was:

- Coordinated approach to economic recovery

First Ministers Attending	Delegates*
Federal	Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney (Chair)
Ontario	Hon. Bob Rae
Quebec	Monsieur Robert Bourassa
Nova Scotia	Hon. Don W. Cameron
New Brunswick	Hon. Frank McKenna
Manitoba	Hon. Gary Filmon
British Columbia	Hon. Mike Harcourt
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Joseph A. Ghiz
Saskatchewan	Hon. Roy Romanow
Alberta	Hon. Donald R. Getty
Newfoundland	Hon. Clyde K. Wells

*No list of delegates or confirmation of attendance is available.

Conference communiqué

No information available.

NOTES

- The meeting sessions were closed.
- At the close of the meeting it was agreed that the First Ministers would meet again in February of 1992 to continue discussions on the Canadian economy.

FIRST MINISTERS' MEETING ON THE ECONOMY

February 10, 1992

Lester B. Pearson Building, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda issued. The subject discussed was:

- Pre-budget discussion of common economic recovery

First Ministers Attending	Delegates*
Federal	Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney (Chair)
Ontario	Hon. Bob Rae
Quebec	Monsieur Gérard D. Lévesque, Minister of Finance
Nova Scotia	Hon. Don W. Cameron
New Brunswick	Hon. Frank McKenna
Manitoba	Hon. Gary Filmon
British Columbia	Hon. Mike Harcourt
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Joseph A. Ghiz
Saskatchewan	Hon. Roy Romanow
Alberta	Hon. Donald R. Getty
Newfoundland	Hon. Clyde K. Wells

*No list of delegates or confirmation of attendance is available.

Conference communiqué

No information available.

NOTES

- A press release dated February 5, 1992 by the Office of the Prime Minister stated that the meeting would begin with an open session in the morning followed by a working lunch and a private afternoon session.
- This was the second meeting in two months for the First Ministers regarding the Canadian economy.
- A third and final meeting would take place the following month in Toronto.

FIRST MINISTERS' MEETING ON THE ECONOMY

March 24-25, 1992

Westin Harbour Castle Hotel and Convention Centre, Toronto, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda issued. Among the subjects discussed were:

- Effective and efficient social programs
- Training
- Infrastructure
- Interprovincial trade barriers and competition for investment
- International Trade
- Agriculture
- Fisheries
- Tax coordination

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney (Chair)	18
Ontario	Hon. Bob Rae	17
Quebec	Monsieur Gérard D. Levesque, Minister of Finance	8
Nova Scotia	Hon. Don W. Cameron	7
New Brunswick	Hon. Frank McKenna	5
Manitoba	Hon. Gary Filmon	12
British Columbia	Hon. Mike Harcourt	6
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Joseph A. Ghiz	3
Saskatchewan	Hon. Roy Romanow	6
Alberta	Hon. Donald R. Getty	10
Newfoundland	Hon. Clyde K. Wells	7
Yukon	Hon. Tony Penikett	4
Northwest Territories	Hon. Nellie Cournoyea	4
		107

Conference Secretary: Stuart MacKinnon

Conference communiqué

- Outcomes of Discussions
  - Interprovincial trade barriers and competition for investment
  - International Trade
  - Tax Coordination
  - Effective and Efficient Social Programs
  - Training
  - Infrastructure
  - Agriculture
  - Fisheries

NOTES

- "The Meeting is a private working closed session to enable First Ministers to review work undertaken as a result of their previous meetings on December 19, 1991 and February 10, 1992. To encourage a productive discussion, British Columbia Premier Michael Harcourt, as current chair of the Premiers' Conference, suggested that the meeting be private. First Ministers will, however, report publicly on their progress at the conclusion of the March 25 session." (Prime Minister's Office news release, March 20, 1992)
- Except for the First Ministers' Conferences on Aboriginal Constitutional Matters, this was the first First Ministers' Meeting to include the territorial leaders as delegates.

FIRST MINISTERS' MEETING ON THE CONSTITUTION

August 18, 1992

Lester B. Pearson Building, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda issued.

First Ministers and Heads of Delegations Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney (Chair)	24
Ontario	Hon. Bob Rae	24
Quebec	Monsieur Robert Bourassa	26
Nova Scotia	Hon. Don W. Cameron	9
New Brunswick	Hon. Frank McKenna	7
Manitoba	Hon. Gary Filmon	13
British Columbia	Hon. Michael Harcourt	15
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Joseph A. Ghiz	4
Saskatchewan	Hon. Roy Romanow	15
Alberta	Hon. Donald R. Getty	17
Newfoundland	Hon. Clyde K. Wells	10
Yukon	Hon. Tony Penikett	5
Northwest Territories	Hon. Nellie Cournoyea	13
Assembly of First Nations	Ovide Mercredi, National Chief	95
Inuit Tapirisat of Canada	Rosemarie Kuptana, President	43
Métis National Council	Yvon Dumont, President	18
Native Council of Canada	Ron George, President	33
Aboriginal Organizations	Neil Sterritt	1
		372

Co-Secretaries General: Pierre Gravelle and Robert Weese, Constitutional Conference Secretariat

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The Meeting sessions were closed.
- The conference was an integral part of the Multilateral Meetings on the Constitution process. The first meeting of this process was held at the Lester B. Pearson Building in Ottawa on March 12, 1992. The meeting was chaired by the Right Honourable Joe Clark, President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada and Minister responsible for Constitutional Affairs.
- Two Premiers meetings on the Constitution were also held in the context of this process in July 1992 (see CICS publication on Premiers' Conferences 1887-2002, Ottawa, September 2002 — also available on the CICS website at www.scics.gc.ca).

FIRST MINISTERS' MEETING ON THE CONSTITUTION

August 27-28, 1992

Prince Edward Hotel, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

Agenda

No agenda issued.

First Ministers and Other Heads of Delegations Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney (Chair)	18
Ontario	Hon. Bob Rae	22
Quebec	Monsieur Robert Bourassa	16
Nova Scotia	Hon. Don W. Cameron	14
New Brunswick	Hon. Frank McKenna	10
Manitoba	Hon. Gary Filmon	7
British Columbia	Hon. Michael Harcourt	18
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Joseph A. Ghiz	9
Saskatchewan	Hon. Roy Romanow	10
Alberta	Hon. Donald R. Getty	12
Newfoundland	Hon. Clyde K. Wells	6
Yukon	Hon. Tony Penikett	5
Northwest Territories	Hon. Nellie Cournoyea	6
Assembly of First Nations	Ovide Mercredi, National Chief	37
Inuit Tapirisat of Canada	Rosemarie Kuptana, President	13
Métis National Council	Yvon Dumont, President	19
Native Council of Canada	Ron George, President	18
		240

Co-Secretaries General: Pierre Gravelle and Robert Weese, Constitutional Conference Secretariat

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The dates and location for this meeting had originally been scheduled for the 33rd Annual Premiers' Conference (APC). With the agreement of all parties the APC was superseded by a First Ministers' Meeting on the Constitution, the culmination of an intensive round of constitutional discussions carried out during the late spring and summer of 1992.
- The Meeting sessions were closed.
- The meeting reached agreement on a package of constitutional amendments which became known as the Charlottetown Accord.
- A document was released titled "Final Consensus Report on the Constitution" which listed six major subjects.
  - Unity and Diversity
  - Institutions
  - Roles and Responsibilities
  - First Peoples
  - The Amending Formula
  - Other Issues

NOTES *(continued)*

- A companion document to the Consensus Report titled "Final Political Accords" was also released which described the elements of a political accord or accords that will accompany the constitutional amendments, as well as intergovernmental agreements that may be negotiated pursuant to these amendments.
- At the close of the First Ministers' Meeting on the Constitution, Premier Ghiz of Prince Edward Island convened a brief meeting of the 33rd Annual Premiers' Conference. All Provincial Premiers and the Government Leaders of the two Territories were present. The Leaders of two Aboriginal Groups (the Assembly of First Nations and the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada) attended as guests. There was discussion of possible agenda items for a Premiers' meeting proposed for later in the fall. (That proposed meeting was not convened.) The meeting was then adjourned in order for the participants to attend the press conference on the Constitutional Agreement.
- After the meeting, the Prime Minister held a press conference and was followed in turn by the provincial Premiers.
- A Draft Legal Text based on the Charlottetown Accord was released on October 9, 1992.

A National Referendum took place on October 26, 1992 to determine if the Agreement would be approved. The majority of Canadians voted against the Charlottetown Accord and it was therefore rejected.

FIRST MINISTERS' MEETING – ECONOMY

December 21, 1993

Lester B. Pearson Building, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda issued. Among the subjects discussed were:

- Economic Renewal and Fiscal Responsibility
- Job Creation and Competitive Economy
- Program Coordination

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Jean Chretien (Chair)	*
Ontario	Hon. Bob Rae	12
Quebec	Monsieur Daniel Johnson	19
Nova Scotia	Hon. J. William Gillis, Deputy Premier and Minister of Justice	4
New Brunswick	Hon. Frank McKenna	4
Manitoba	Hon. Gary Filmon	7
British Columbia	Hon. Michael Harcourt	8
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Catherine Callbeck	3
Saskatchewan	Hon. Roy Romanow	5
Alberta	Hon. Ralph Klein	7
Newfoundland	Hon. Clyde K. Wells	4
Yukon	Hon. John Ostashek	2
Northwest Territories	Hon. Nellie Cournoyea	6

Conference Coordinator: Pierre-Luc Perrier

*As no list of Federal delegation is available, the total is incomplete.

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The Meeting sessions were closed.

FIRST MINISTERS' MEETING – TRADE

July 18, 1994

Lester B. Pearson Building, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda issued. The subject discussed was:

- Internal Trade

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Jean Chrétien (Chair)	9
Ontario	Hon. Bob Rae	10
Quebec	Monsieur Daniel Johnson	7
Nova Scotia	Hon. John Savage	3
New Brunswick	Hon. Frank McKenna	6
Manitoba	Hon. Gary Filmon	7
British Columbia	Hon. Michael Harcourt	6
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Catherine Callbeck	4
Saskatchewan	Hon. Roy Romanow	7
Alberta	Hon. Ralph Klein	7
Newfoundland	Hon. Clyde K. Wells	7
Yukon	Hon. John Ostashek	2
Northwest Territories	Hon. Nellie J. Cournoyea	5
		80

Conference Coordinator: Pierre-Luc Perrier

No Conference communique issued.

NOTES

- The Meeting sessions were closed.
- First Ministers reviewed progress on measures to promote economic growth and improve the efficiency of the federation.
- The Prime Minister reported on the G-7 Summit held in Naples, Italy.
- At the close of the meeting, there was a signing ceremony of the Internal Trade Agreement, and a press conference by the Prime Minister followed by individual provincial Premiers. The Prime Minister issued a statement on the signing of the Internal Trade Agreement.

FIRST MINISTERS' MEETING

June 20-21, 1996

Robertson Conference Room, Lester B. Pearson Building, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda issued. Among the subjects discussed were:

- The Canadian Economy
- Renewal of the Federation
- Section 49, *Constitution Act 1982*
- Jobs and Growth
- Social Dimensions

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Jean Chrétien (Chair)	15
Ontario	Hon. Michael D. Harris	11
Quebec	Monsieur Lucien Bouchard	15
Nova Scotia	Hon. John Savage	5
New Brunswick	Hon. Frank McKenna	7
Manitoba	Hon. Gary Filmon	10
British Columbia	Hon. Glen Clark	9
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Catherine Callbeck	3
Saskatchewan	Hon. Roy Romanow	7
Alberta	Hon. Ralph Klein	6
Newfoundland	Hon. Brian Tobin	6
Yukon	Hon. John Ostashek	2
Northwest Territories	Hon. Don Morin	10
		106

Conference Secretary: Stuart MacKinnon

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- The Meeting sessions were closed.
- The meeting began on June 20, with a private First Ministers' dinner at 24 Sussex Drive. The meeting resumed on June 21 and was limited to First Ministers plus one (Minister or official).
- Section 49 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* required the Prime Minister of Canada to convene a constitutional conference before April 17, 1997 to review the constitutional amending formula. The item was on the agenda to fulfill that constitutional requirement. The discussion was of very short duration and there was no decision on how further discussion might be pursued on this matter. (For further reference, see *Amending Canada's Constitution: History, Processes, Problems and Prospects*, James Ross Hurley, p.172. Available in Canada through local bookseller - ISBN 0-660-16261-X, Cat. No. CP32-63/1995E).

FIRST MINISTERS' MEETING

December 11-12, 1997

Robertson Conference Room, Lester B. Pearson Building, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

1. Social Policy Renewal
   - Framework on Social Policy Renewal
   - Sector Issues
     a) National Child Benefit (NCB)
     b) National Children's Agenda (NCA)
     c) Persons with Disabilities
2. Health
3. Youth Employment
4. Next Steps
5. Closing Remarks

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Jean Chrétien (Chair)	20
Ontario	Hon. Michael D. Harris	10
Quebec	Monsieur Lucien Bouchard	18
Nova Scotia	Hon. Russell MacLellan	5
New Brunswick	Hon. Raymond Frenette	9
Manitoba	Hon. Gary Filmon	10
British Columbia	Hon. Glen Clark	7
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Patrick G. Binns	4
Saskatchewan	Hon. Roy Romanow	8
Alberta	Hon. Ralph Klein	10
Newfoundland and Labrador*	Hon. Brian Tobin	10
Yukon	Hon. Piers McDonald	3
Northwest Territories	Hon. Don Morin	8
		122

Conference Secretary: Stuart MacKinnon

* This is the first time at a meeting of First Ministers that the province of Newfoundland used the designation of Newfoundland and Labrador. The Newfoundland House of Assembly passed a resolution to change the name on April 29, 1999. This was officially adopted in the provincial constitution in 2001.

Conference communiqué

- General communiqué
  - Framework For Canada's Social Union
  - National Child Benefit
  - National Children's Agenda
  - Persons with Disabilities
  - Health
  - Student Debt
  - Youth
  - Climate Change

NOTES

- The meeting began on December 11, with a private dinner at 24 Sussex Drive. The dinner meeting included the First Ministers. The meeting resumed on December 12 with two closed sessions limited to First Ministers plus one (minister or official).

FIRST MINISTERS' MEETING

February 4, 1999

24 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda issued. The subject discussed was:

- Social Union Framework Agreement (SUFA)

First Ministers Attending	Delegates*
Federal	Rt. Hon. Jean Chrétien (Chair)
Ontario	Hon. Michael D. Harris
Quebec	Monsieur Lucien Bouchard
Nova Scotia	Hon. Russell MacLellan
New Brunswick	Hon. Camille Thériault
Manitoba	Hon. Gary Filmon
British Columbia	Hon. Glen Clark
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Patrick G. Binns
Saskatchewan	Hon. Roy Romanow
Alberta	Hon. Ralph Klein
Newfoundland and Labrador	Hon. Brian Tobin
Yukon	Hon Piers McDonald
Northwest Territories	Hon. Jim Antoine

Conference Coordinator: Pierre-Luc Perrier

*No list of delegates or confirmation of attendance is available.

Conference communiqué

- A Framework to Improve the Social Union for Canadians
  - Principles
    - All Canadians are equal
    - Meeting the needs of Canadians
    - Sustaining social programs and services
    - Aboriginal peoples of Canada
  - Mobility within Canada
  - Informing Canadians – Public Accountability and Transparency
    - Achieving and Measuring Results
    - Involvement of Canadians
    - Ensuring fair and transparent practices
  - Working in partnership for Canadians
    - Joint Planning and Collaboration
    - Reciprocal Notice and Consultation
    - Equitable Treatment
    - Aboriginal Peoples
  - The federal spending power – Improving social programs for Canadians
    - Social transfers to provinces and territories
    - Funding predictability
    - New Canada-wide initiatives supported by transfers to Provinces and Territories
    - Direct federal spending

Conference communiqué *(continued)*

- Dispute Avoidance and Resolution
  - Role of the Ministerial Council
- Review of the Social Union Framework Agreement

At the conclusion of the meeting all governments, with the exception of Quebec, signed "A Framework to Improve the Social Union for Canadians".

NOTES

- While there was no official agenda as such, a news release from the Prime Minister's Office on February 2, 1999 said that the meeting would deal with the ongoing discussions on a new Social Union framework, as well as a proposed federal-provincial-territorial health agreement.
- The Meeting sessions were closed.
- The meeting was restricted to First Ministers plus one (minister or official). All other delegates were accommodated across the street at 7 Rideau Gate, the Canadian Government Guest House.

FIRST MINISTERS' MEETING

September 10-11, 2000

Lester B. Pearson Building, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda was issued. Among the subjects discussed were:

- Health Care Renewal
- Early Childhood Development

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Jean Chrétien (Chair)	32
Ontario	Hon. Michael D. Harris	17
Quebec	Monsieur Lucien Bouchard	28
Nova Scotia	Hon. John F. Hamm	8
New Brunswick	Hon. Bernard Lord	7
Manitoba	Hon. Gary Doer	10
British Columbia	Hon. Ujjal Dosanjh	8
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Patrick G. Binns	4
Saskatchewan	Hon. Roy Romanow	8
Alberta	Hon. Ralph Klein	9
Newfoundland and Labrador	Hon. Brian Tobin	5
Yukon	Hon. Pat Duncan	4
Northwest Territories	Hon. Stephen Kakfwi	6
Nunavut	Hon. Paul Okalik	5
		151

Conference Secretary: Stuart MacKinnon

Conference communiqués

- Health
  - Vision
  - Principles
  - Action Plan for Health System Renewal
    - Access to Care
    - Health Promotion and Wellness
    - Appropriate Health Care Services – Primary Health Care
    - Supply of Doctors, Nurses and other Health Personnel
    - Home Care and Community Care
    - Pharmaceuticals Management
    - Health Information and Communications Technology
    - Health Equipment and Infrastructure
  - Clear Accountability – Reporting to Canadians
  - Working Together
  - Next Steps
- Early Childhood Development
  - Introduction
  - Objectives
  - Four Key Areas for Action

Conference communiqués *(continued)*

- Promote Healthy Pregnancy, Birth and Infancy
- Improve Parenting and Family Supports
- Strengthen Early Childhood Development, Learning and Care
- Strengthen Community Supports
  - Working Together to Meet Children's Needs
  - Funding
  - Public Reporting
  - Knowledge, Information and Effective Practices
  - Next Steps
- Funding Commitment of the Government of Canada
- New Federal Investments to Accompany the Agreements on Health Renewal and Early Childhood Development

NOTES

- There was a private dinner meeting of First Ministers the evening of September 10, 2000 at 24 Sussex Drive.
- The Meeting session was closed.
- This was the first First Ministers' Conference attended by the new territory of Nunavut which was created on April 1, 1999.

Photo: Canadian Intergovernmental Conference Secretariat

Alberta Premier Ralph Klein at a media session

FIRST MINISTERS' MEETING

February 4-5, 2003

Bytown Pavillon, 111 Sussex Drive (Old City Hall), Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda was issued. The subject discussed was:

- Health Care Renewal

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Jean Chrétien (Chair)	27
Ontario	Hon. Ernie Eves	21
Quebec	Monsieur Bernard Landry	40
Nova Scotia	Hon. Jane Purves, Minister of Health	9
New Brunswick	Hon. Bernard Lord	8
Manitoba	Hon. Gary Doer	11
British Columbia	Hon. Gordon Campbell	10
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Patrick G. Binns	5
Saskatchewan	Hon. Lorne Calvert	6
Alberta	Hon. Ralph Klein	12
Newfoundland and Labrador	Hon. Roger Grimes	6
Yukon	Hon. Dennis Fentie	7
Northwest Territories	Hon. Stephen Kakfwi	11
Nunavut	Hon. Paul Okalik	7
		180

Conference Secretary: Stuart MacKinnon

Conference communique

- 2003 First Ministers' Accord on Health Care Renewal
  - A Commitment to Canadians
  - A Plan For Change: A New Health Reform Fund for Primary Health Care, Home Care and Catastrophic Drug Coverage
    - Primary Health Care: Ensuring Access to the Appropriate Health Provider When Needed
    - Home Care for Canadians
    - Catastrophic Drug Coverage and Pharmaceuticals Management
    - Reporting
  - A Plan for Change: Diagnostic/Medical Equipment Fund
  - A Plan for Change: Information Technology and an Electronic Health Record
  - Additional Reform Initiatives
    - Patient Safety
    - Health Human Resources
    - Technology Assessment
    - Innovation and Research
    - Healthy Canadians
  - Aboriginal Health
  - Reporting to Canadians on Change

NOTES

- Following a private meeting of the Premiers and Territorial Leaders at the Chateau Laurier, a private dinner of the First Ministers was held at 24 Sussex Drive on February 4, 2003.
- The Meeting sessions were closed.

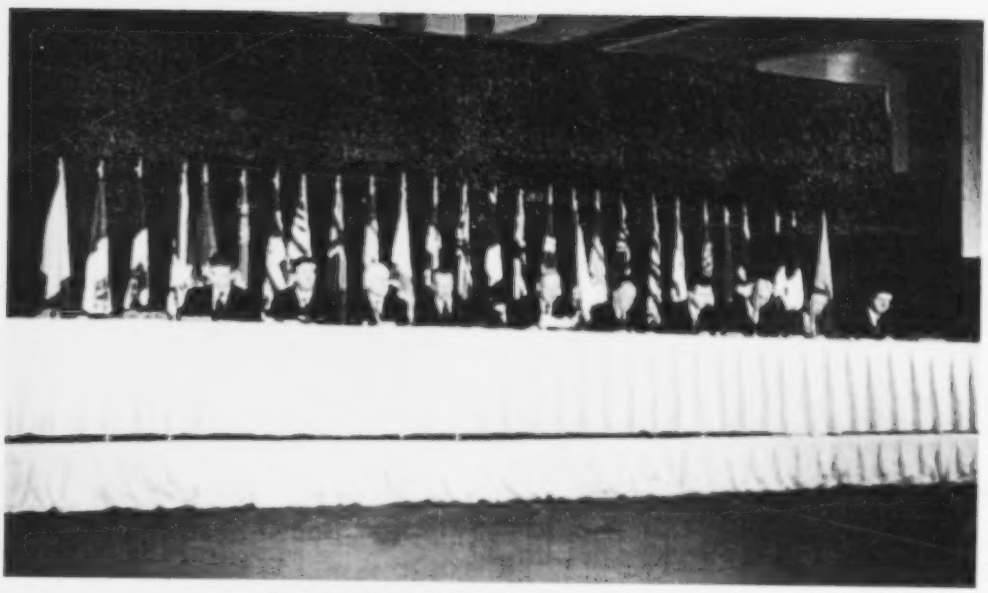

Photo: Diana Murphy/Office of the Prime Minister/030205-DE-25

Federal and Provincial First Ministers at a press conference

FIRST MINISTERS' MEETING

January 30, 2004

24 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario

Agenda

No agenda was issued for this meeting. Among the subjects discussed were:

- Health Care
- Public Health
- Canada-U.S. relations
- Emergency Management

First Ministers Attending		Delegates
Federal	Rt. Hon. Paul Martin (Chair)	8
Ontario	Hon. Dalton McGuinty	10
Quebec	Monsieur Jean Charest	5
Nova Scotia	Hon. John F. Hamm	6
New Brunswick	Hon. Bernard Lord	6
Manitoba	Hon. Gary Doer	5
British Columbia	Hon. Gordon Campbell	3
Prince Edward Island	Hon. Patrick G. Binns	6
Saskatchewan	Hon. Lorne Calvert	5
Alberta	Hon. Ralph Klein	10
Newfoundland and Labrador	Hon. Danny Williams	4
Yukon	Hon. Dennis Fentie	5
Northwest Territories	Hon. Joe Handley	6
Nunavut	Hon. Paul Okalik	3
		82

Conference Secretary: Stuart MacKinnon

Photo: Canadian Intergovernmental Conference Secretariat

Federal, Provincial and Territorial First Ministers at a press conference

No Conference communiqué issued.

NOTES

- Following the meeting, First Ministers held a press conference at the Cadieux auditorium in the Lester B. Pearson Building where the Prime Minister announced that:
  - He had pledged $2 billion for health care funding to the provinces and territories;
  - First Ministers had agreed to reconvene later this year to discuss long-term health strategy;
  - Finance and Health Ministers from the federal, provincial and territorial governments would meet to discuss the health care system;
  - 13 First Ministers had agreed to establish a new public health agency to deal with infectious disease outbreaks; and
  - The First Ministers had also discussed improving U.S. relations.
- The meeting session was closed.